



DC
COMICS™

15

THE NEW 52!

SUPERMAN

ACTION COMICS

EVIL'S
EARLIEST
DAYS...

FEB 2013

MORRISON
WALKER
MORALES
FISCH
SPROUSE

RAGS M. MORALES

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THE NEW 52!

SUPERMAN®

ACTION
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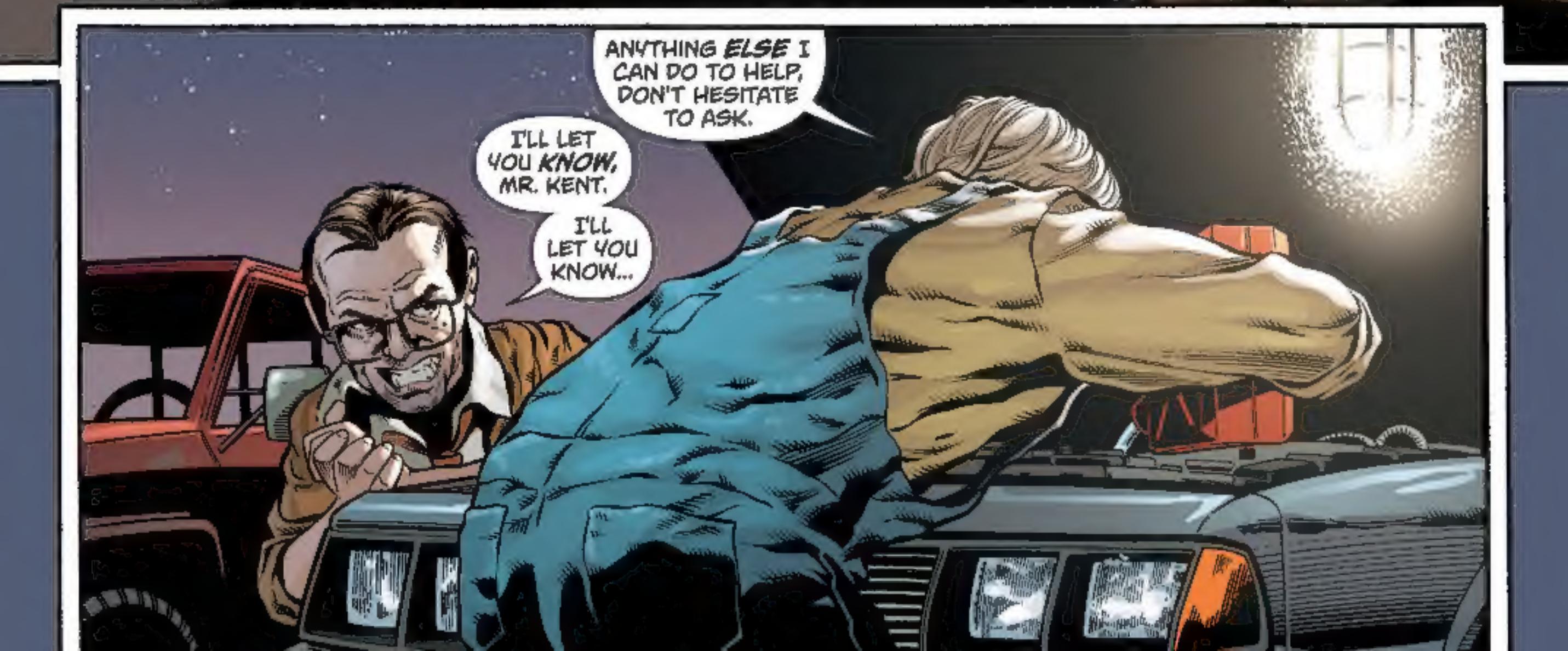
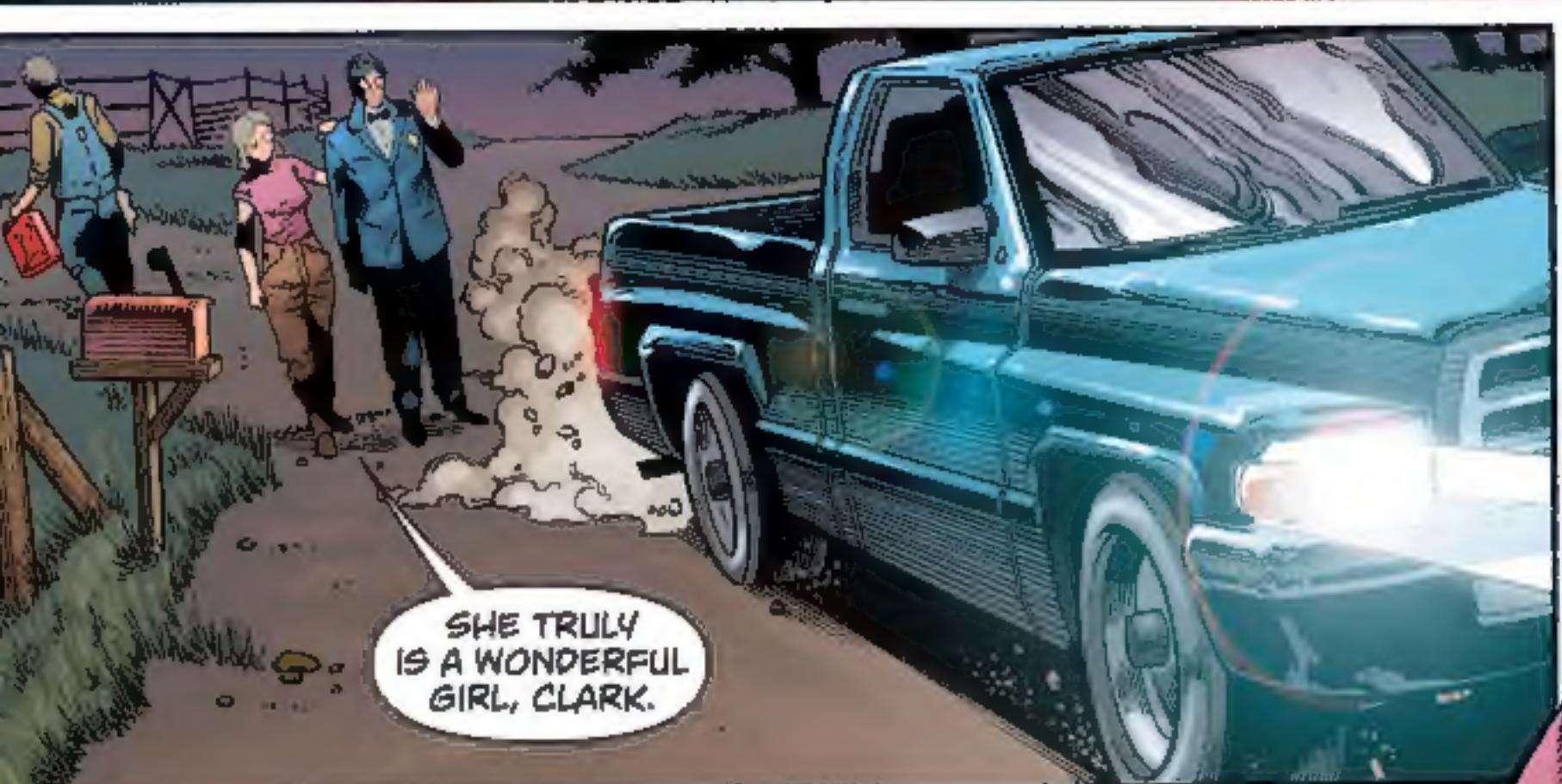
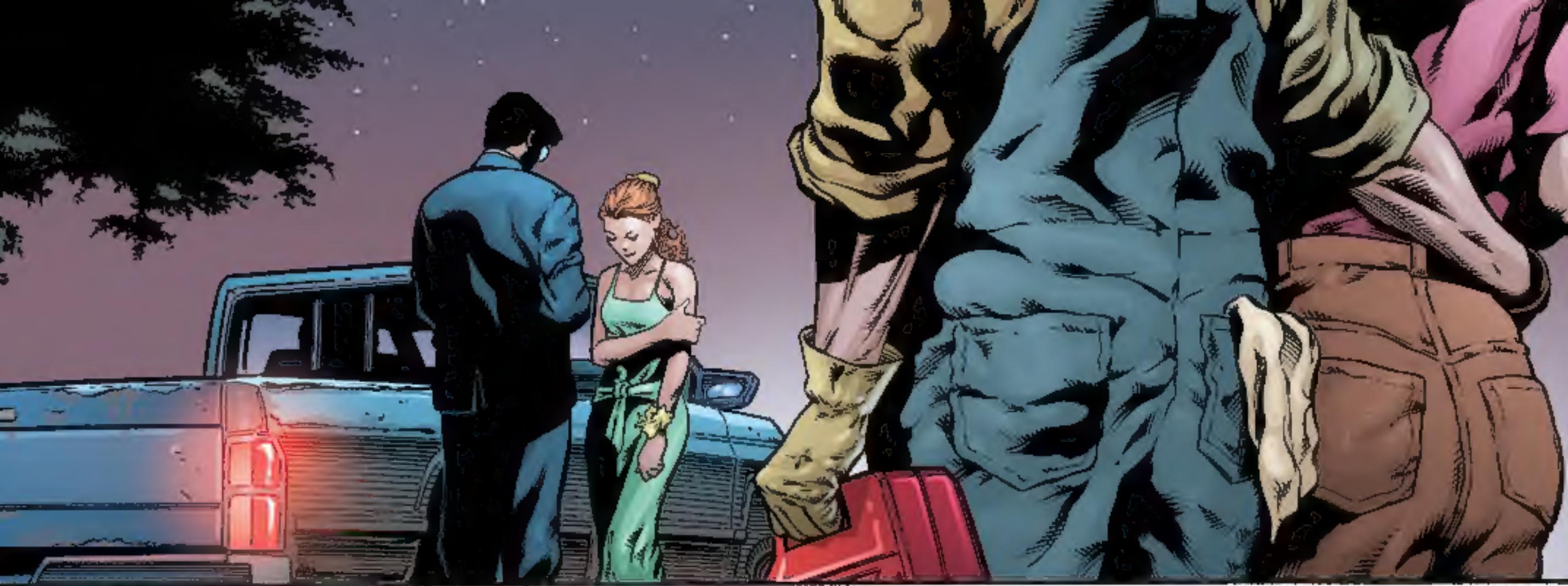
FEB 2013

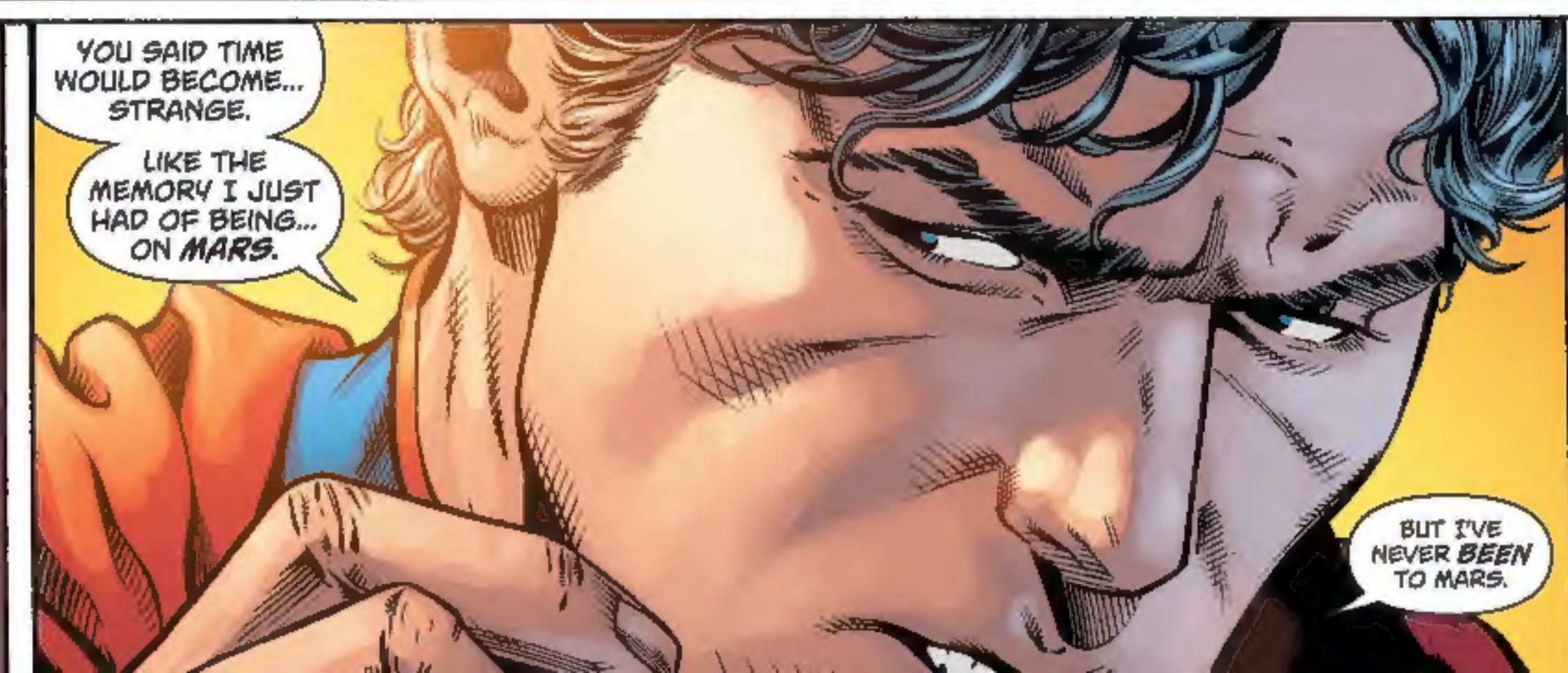
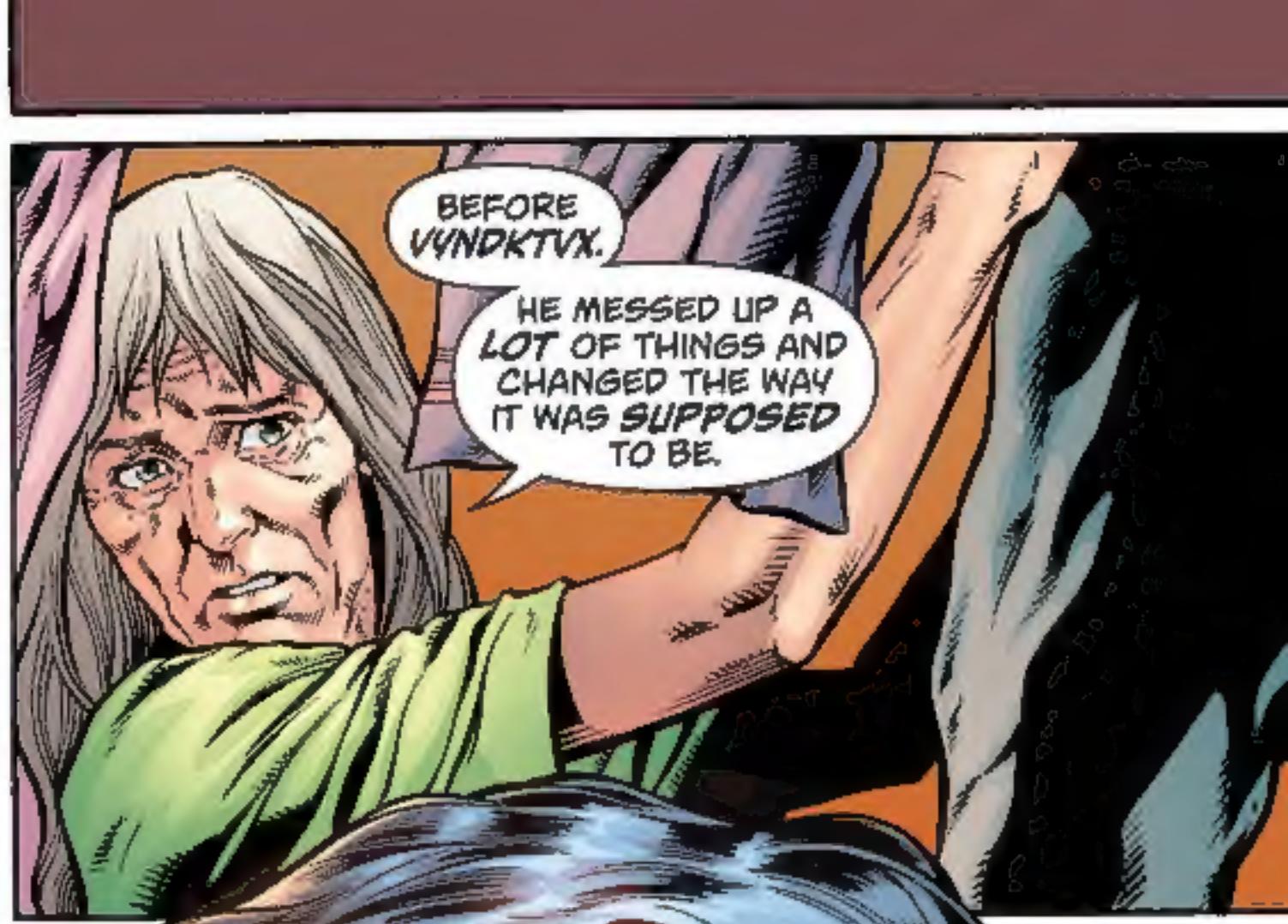
**MORRISON
WALKER
MORALES
FISCH
SPROUSE**

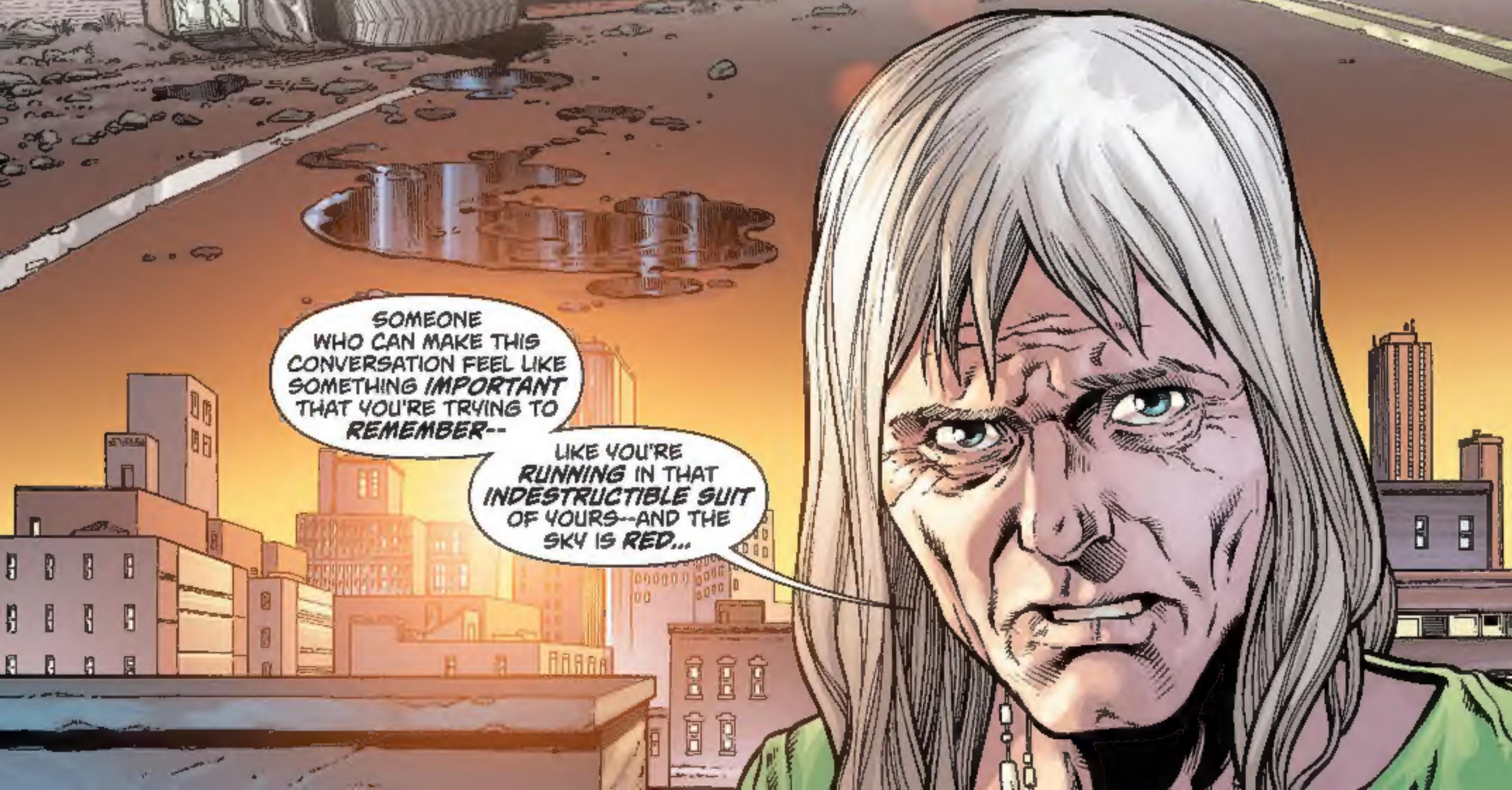
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SUPERMAN at the END

GRANT MORRISON
WRITER

BRAD WALKER
& RAGS MORALES
PENCILERS

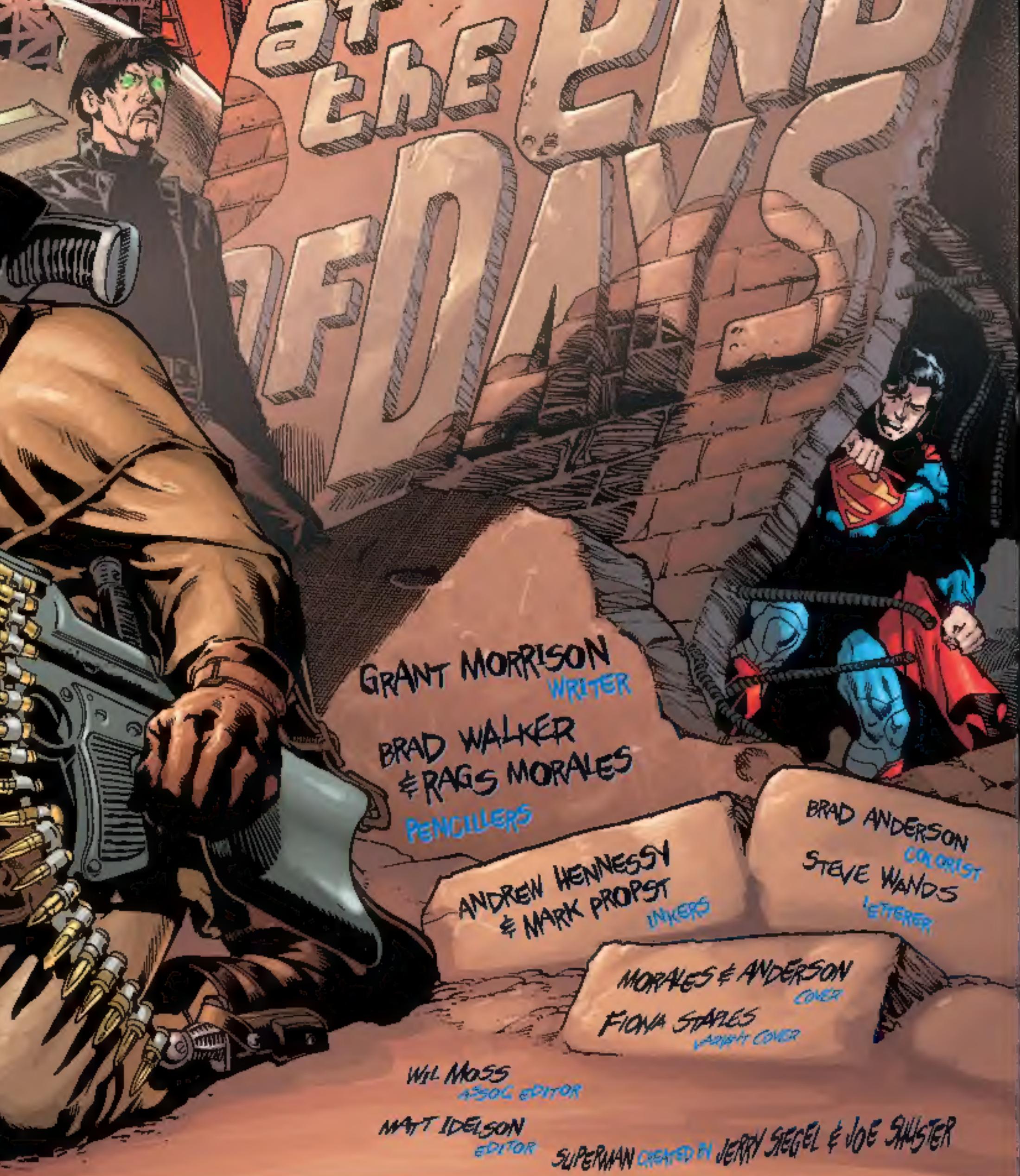
ANDREW HENNESSY
& MARK PROPST
INKERS

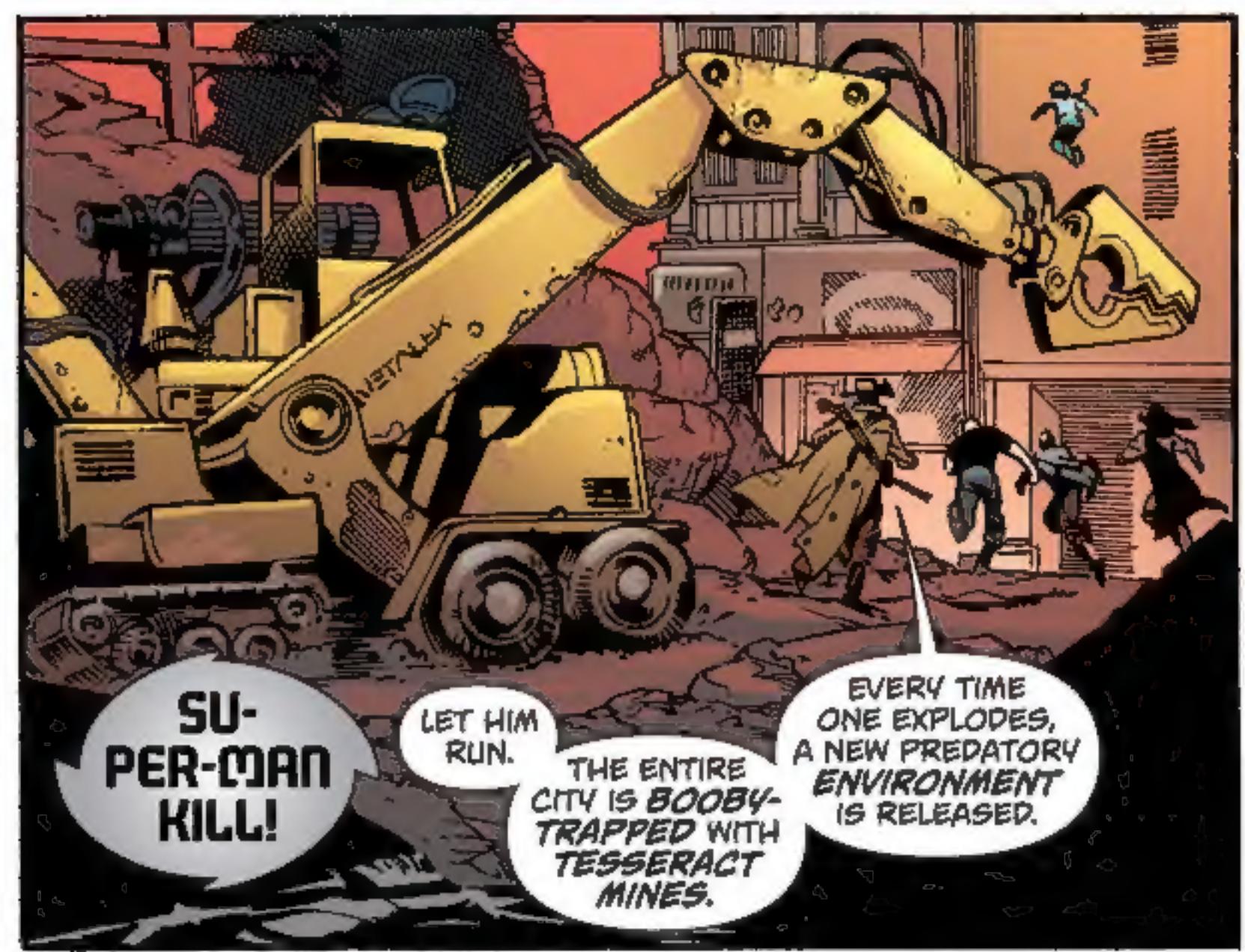
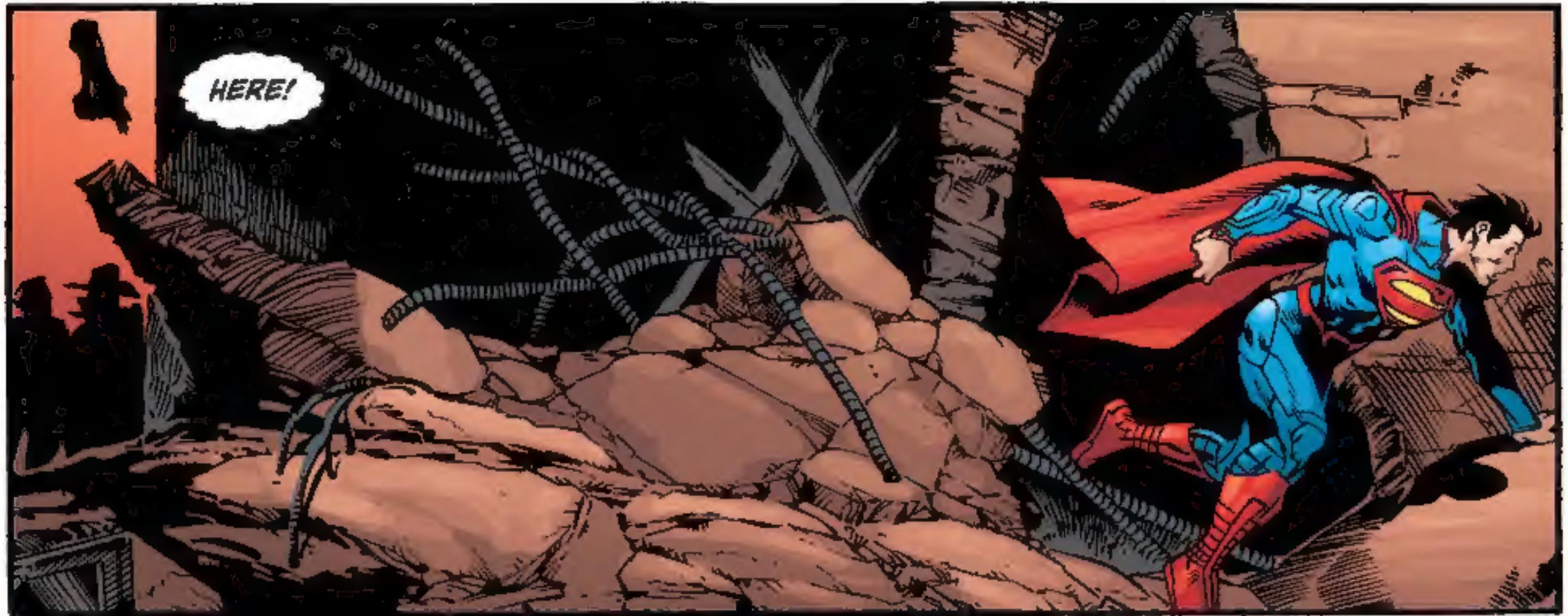
BRAD ANDERSON
COLORIST
STEVE WANDS
LETTERER

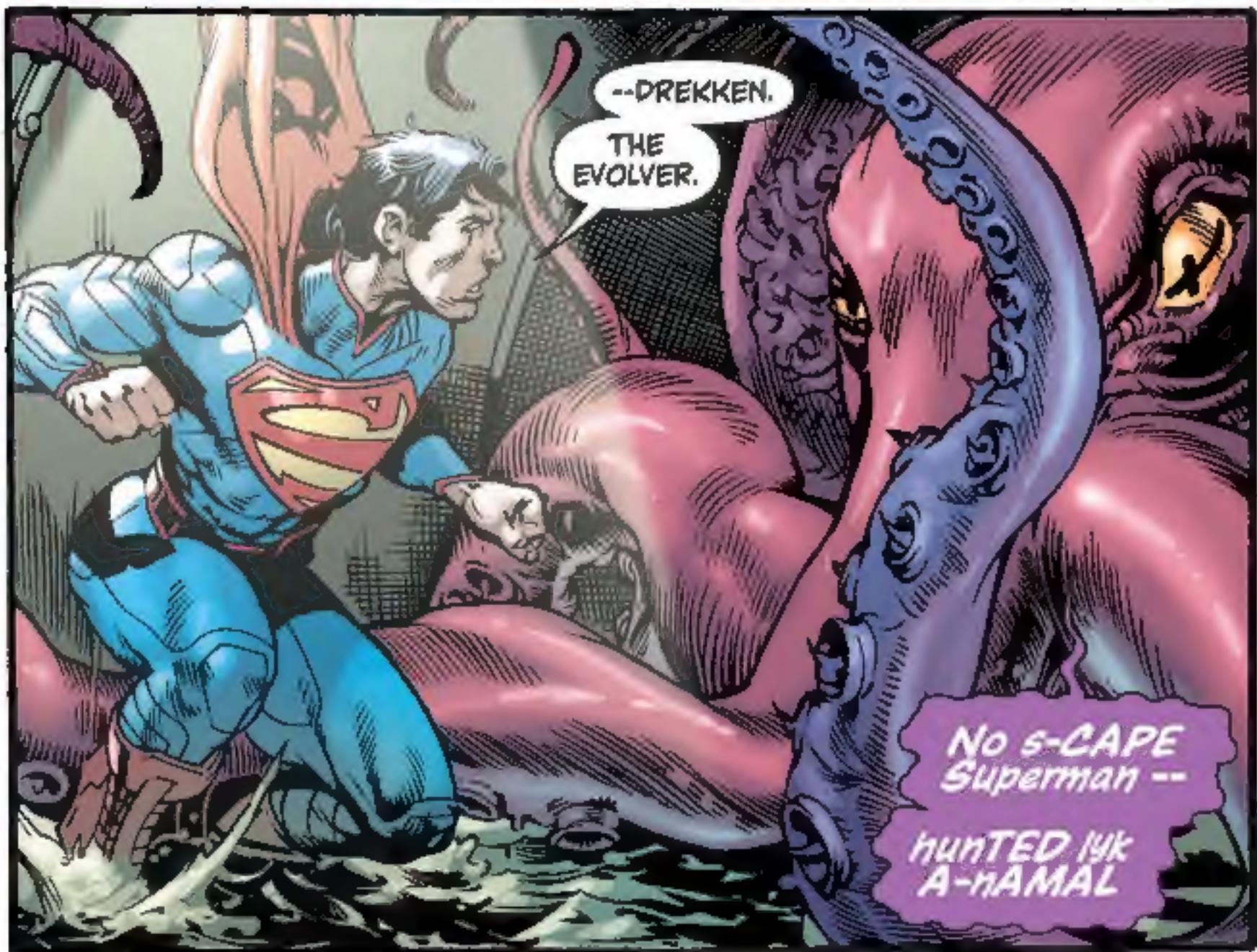
MORALES & ANDERSON
COVER
FIONA STAPLES
VARIANT COVER

WIL MOSS
ASSOC EDITOR
MATT IDELSON
EDITOR

SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER





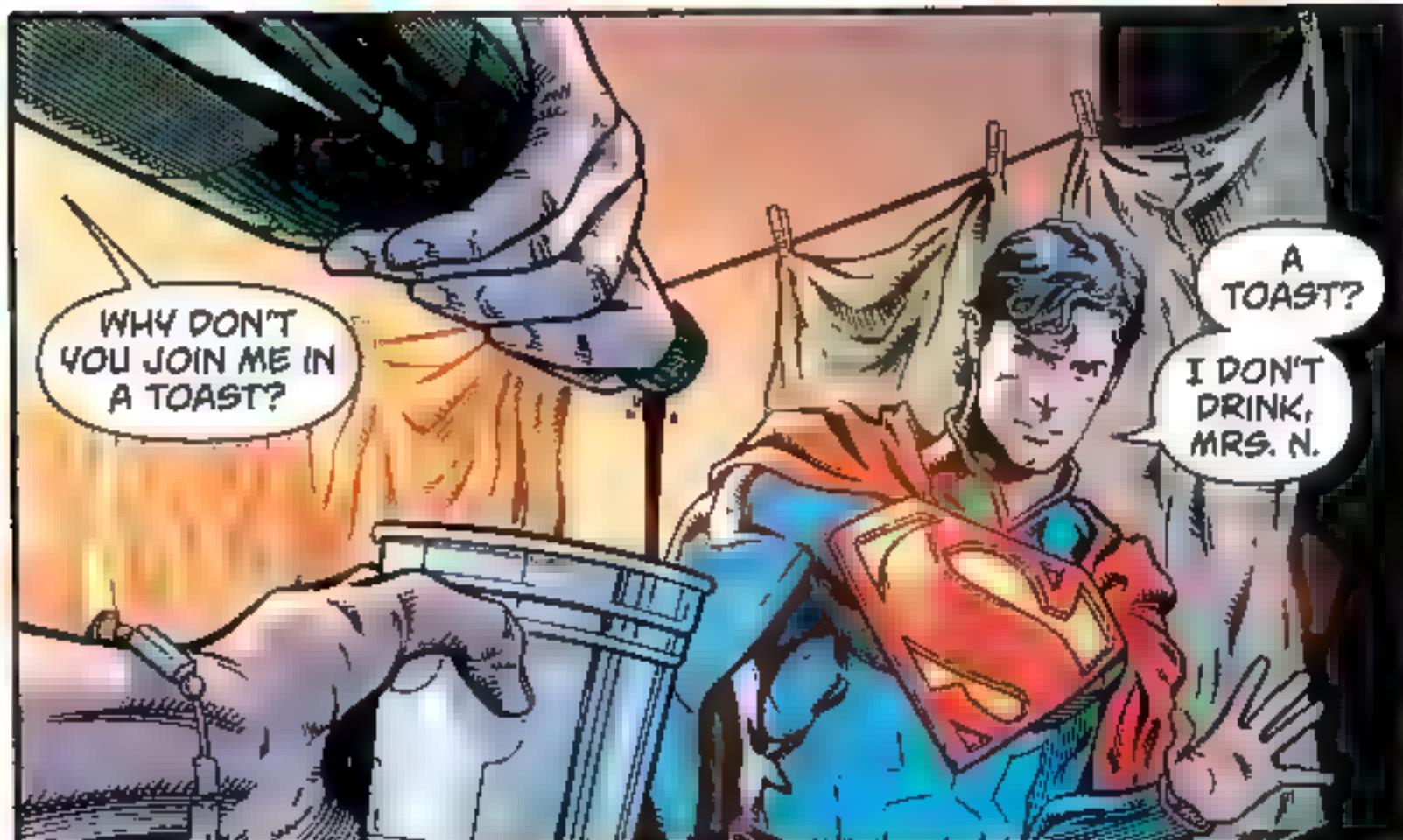


...I THOUGHT
I HEARD
SOMETHING--

SOMETHING
SHIFTED.

AS IF
SCENERY WAS
MOVING AROUND
BEHIND ME.

YOU'RE RIGHT
ABOUT THAT.



HERE'S TO
THE TRIUMPH
OF GOOD
OVER EVIL.



THIS STORY, WELL—

THIS IS A
STORY OF THE 5TH
DIMENSION.

ONCE UPON AN
ALWAYS, FURTHER THAN
FOREVER AND CLOSER
THAN THE BACK OF
YOUR HEAD...

LIVED THE SAD
KING-THING BRPXZ OF
ZRFFF, THE FIVEFOLD
COUNTRY.

SINCE
THE LOSS OF HIS
QUEEN, NOTHING
COULD BRIGHTEN
HIS MOOD.

AND WHILE HE
SIGHED AND SUFFERED,
THE WHOLE COURT, THE
GREAT UNBOUNDED SPHERE
OF ZRFFF ITSELF, HAD NO
CHOICE BUT TO SHARE
THE BLUE-BLACK
GLOOM.

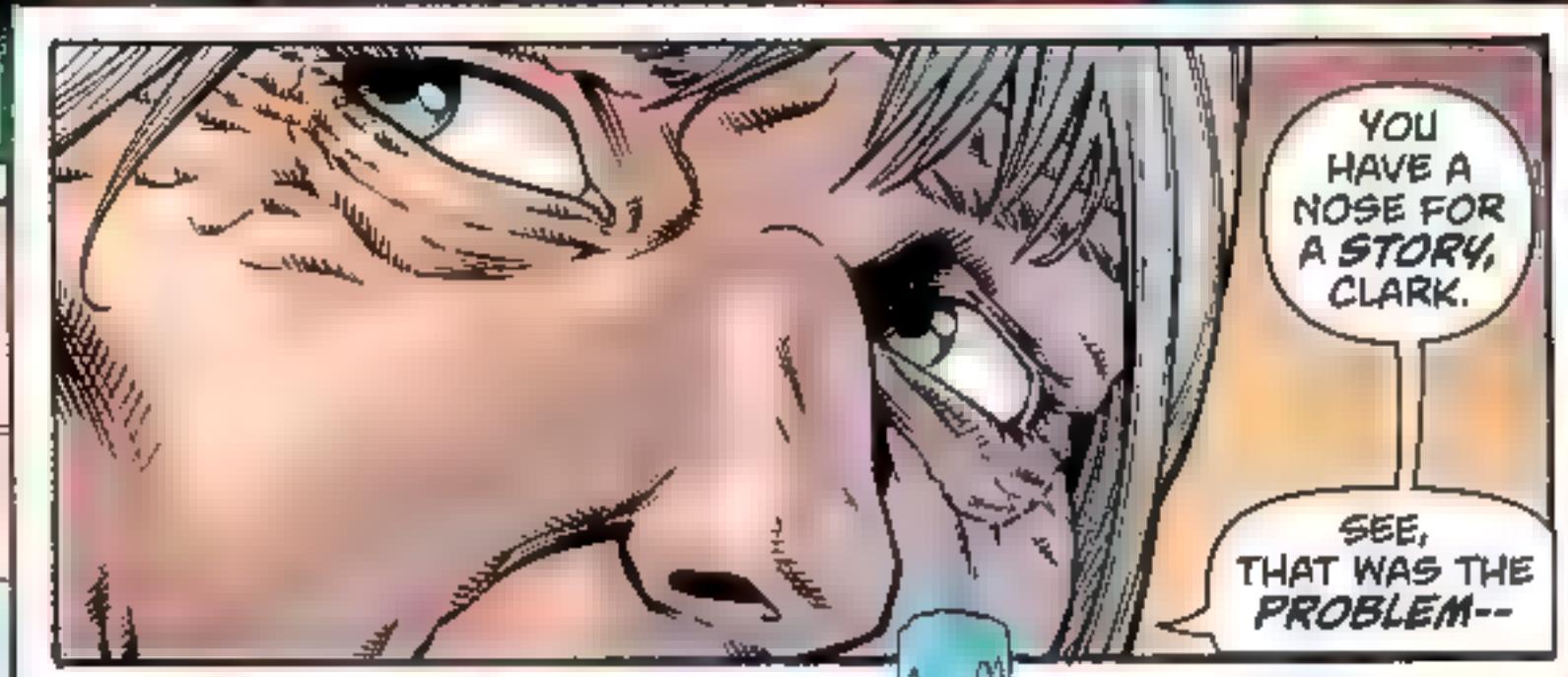
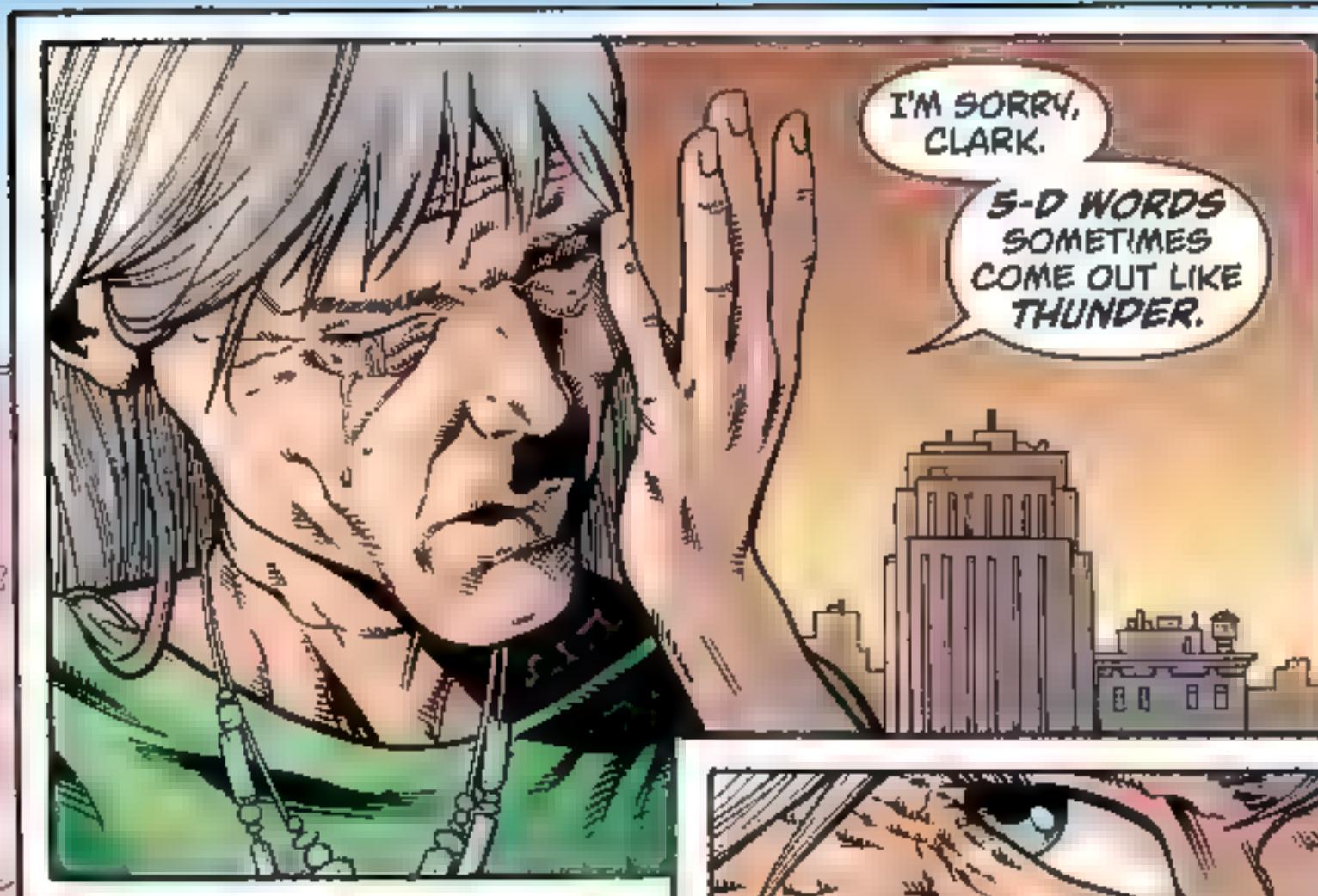
NOT ONE OF
HIS SUBJECTS, NONE
OF THE TREASURES
AND WONDERS OF
ZRFFF—

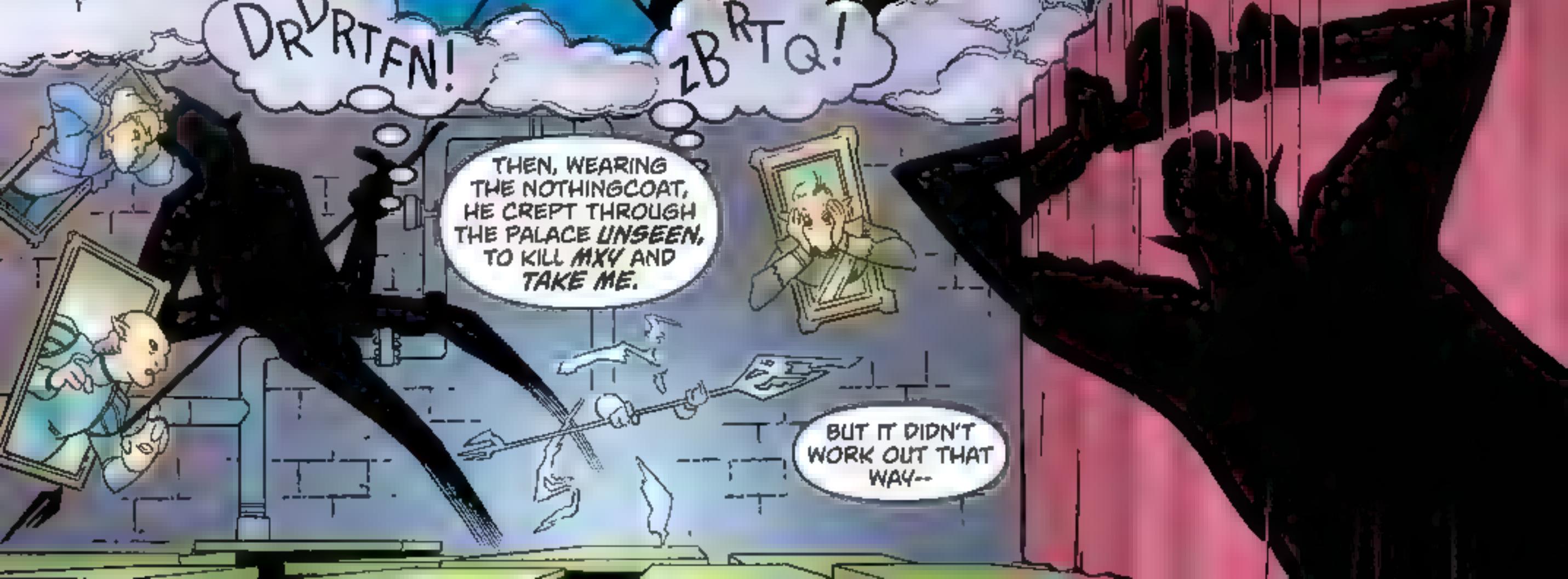
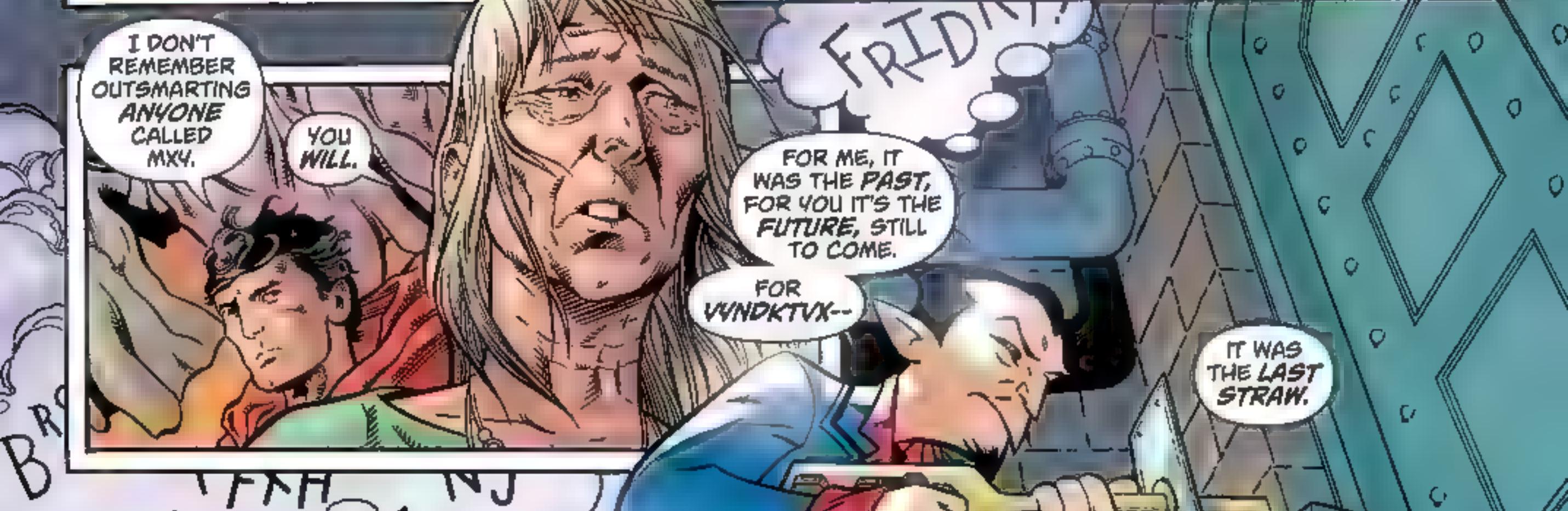
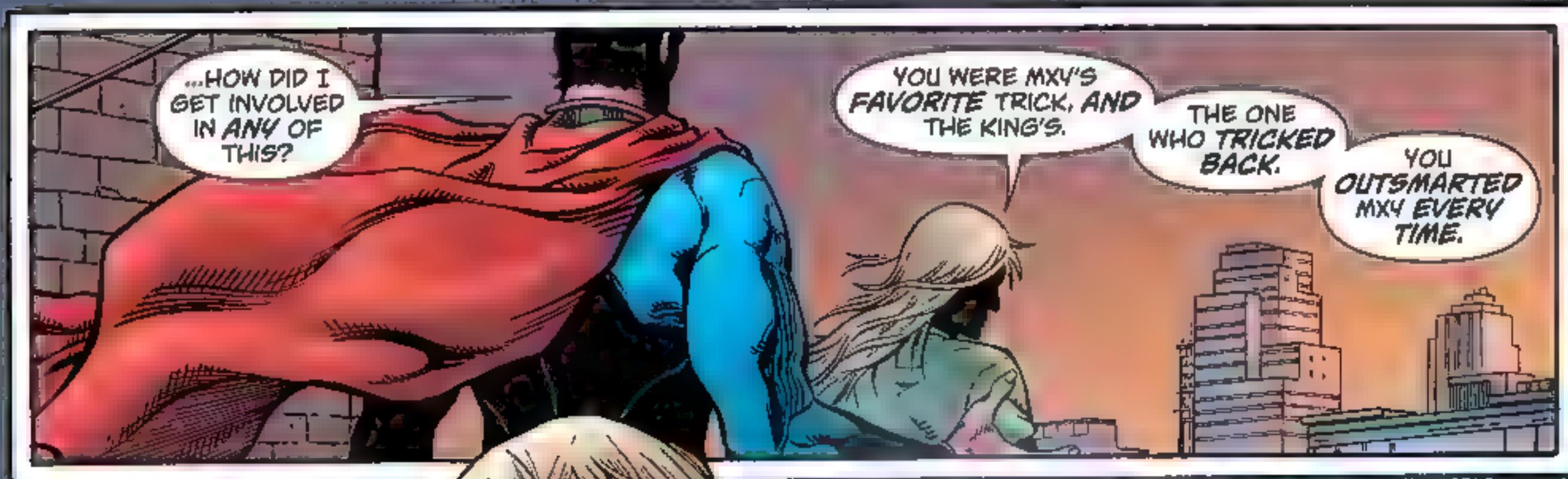
NOT EVEN HIS
LOVING DAUGHTER,
THE PRINCESS
GSPTLNZ—

NOTHING
COULD BRING A SMILE
TO THE KING-THING'S
FACE.

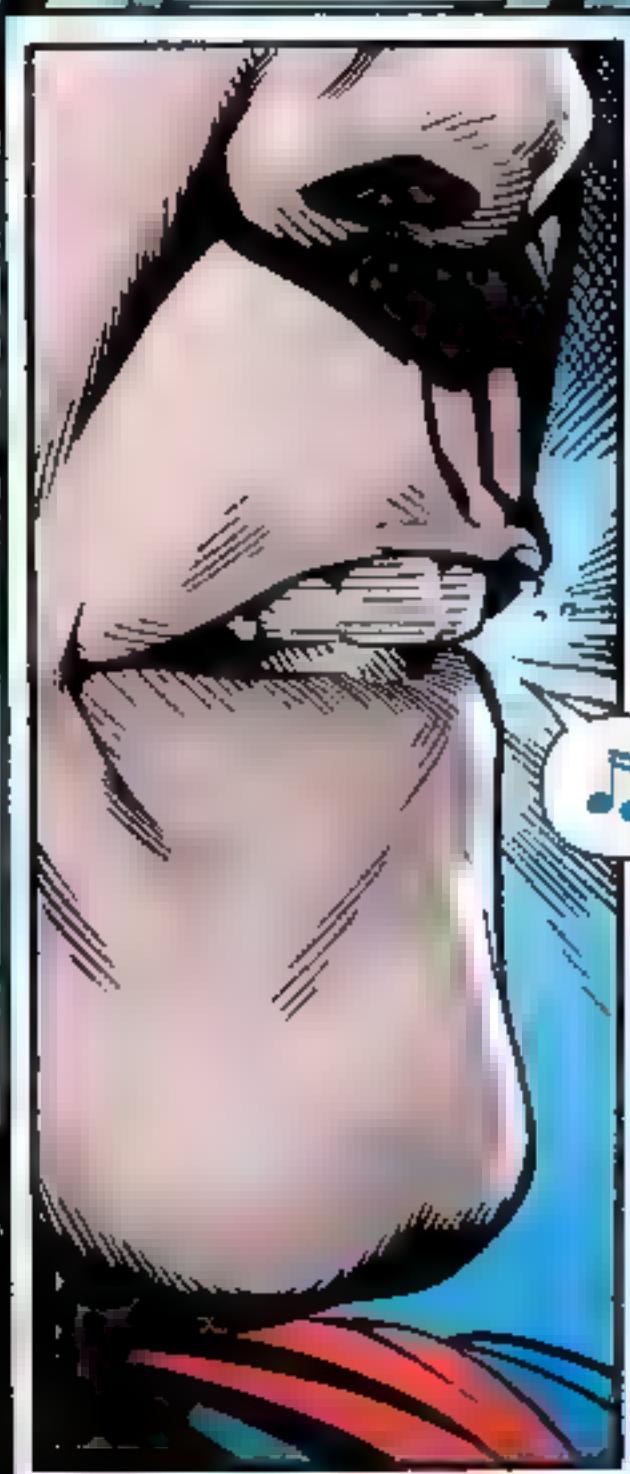
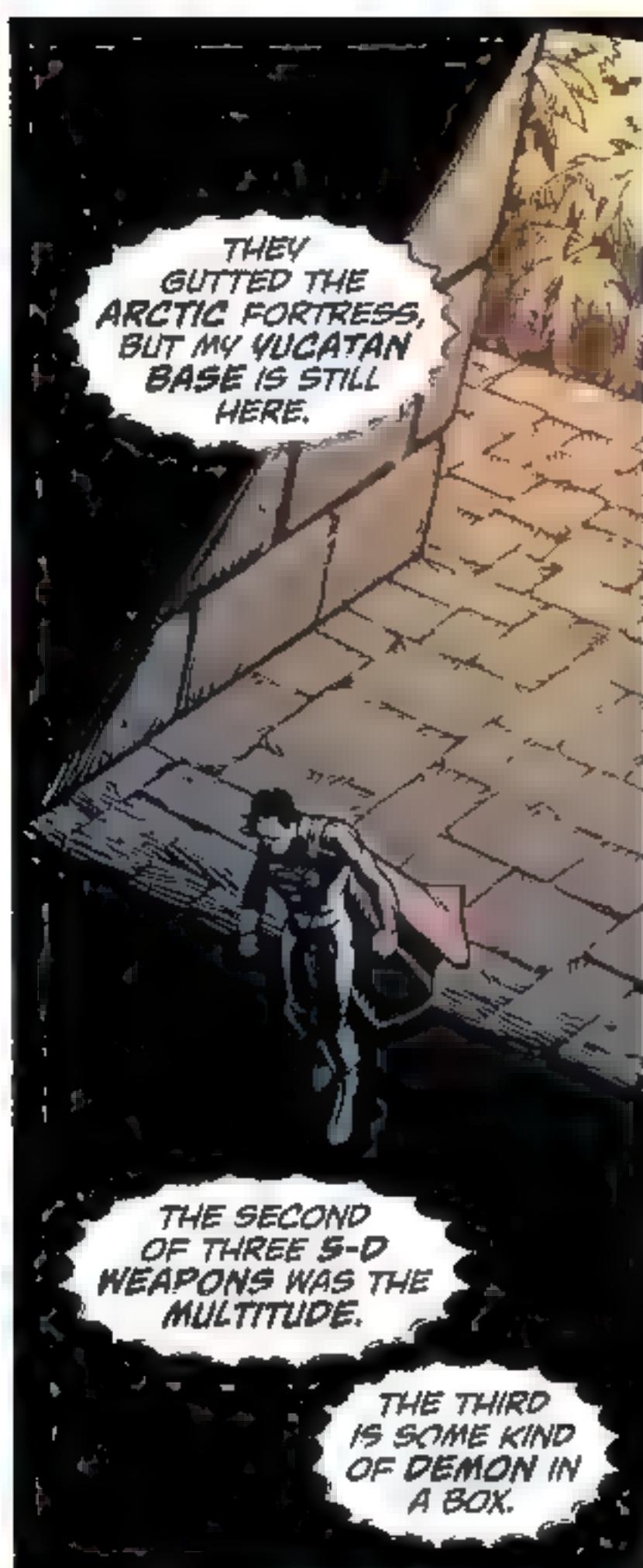












VYNDKTVX SAW
ONLY THE SHADOW
ON THE DRAPE—THE
FAMILIAR DERBY HAT
OF HIS ENEMY.

HE RAISED
THE MULTISPEAR,
BRISTLING WITH
FRACTAL POINTS.

230
WORLDS DIED
INSTANTLY.

BUT ON
TWO OF THOSE
WORLDS, THE MULTI-
SPEAR ENCOUNTERED
UNEXPECTED
RESISTANCE...

MY FATHER
WAS LAUGHING,
TRYING MXY'S SILLY
LITTLE HAT ON
HIS HEAD...

THEN HE
STRUCK.



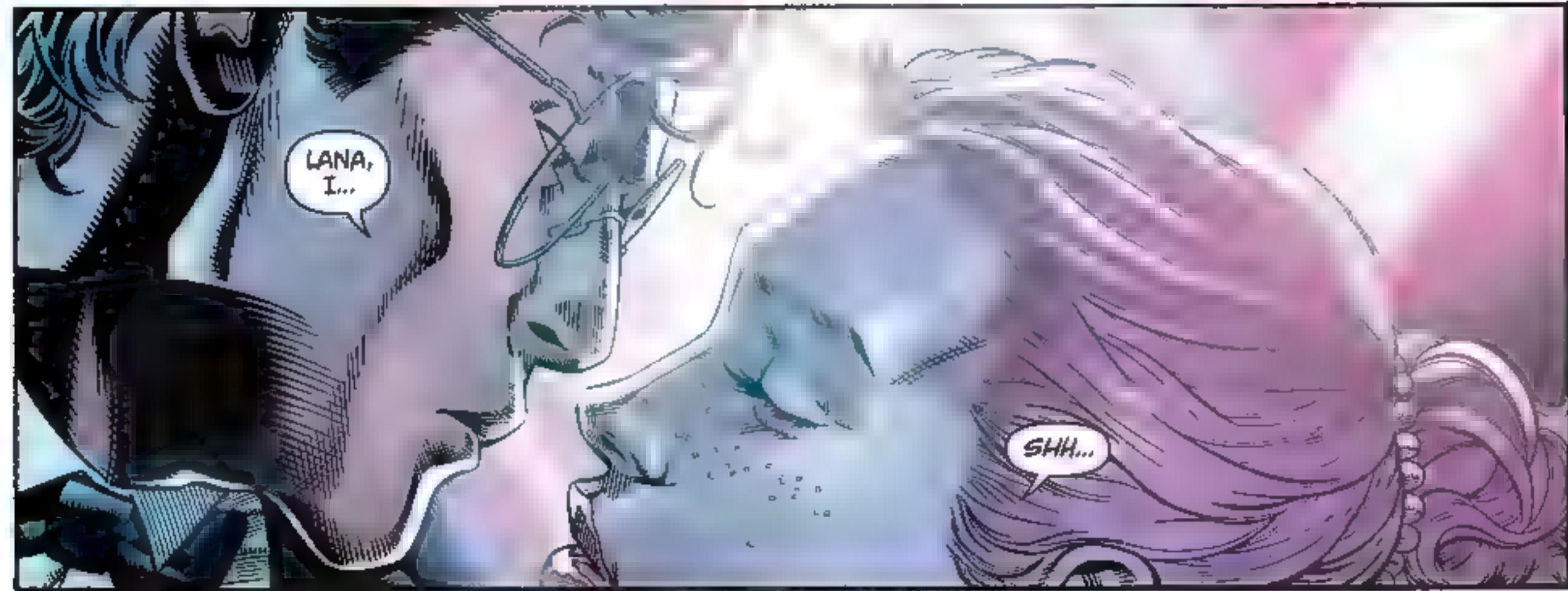
...NO ONE
EVER ASKED
ME TO DANCE
BEFORE,
LANA.

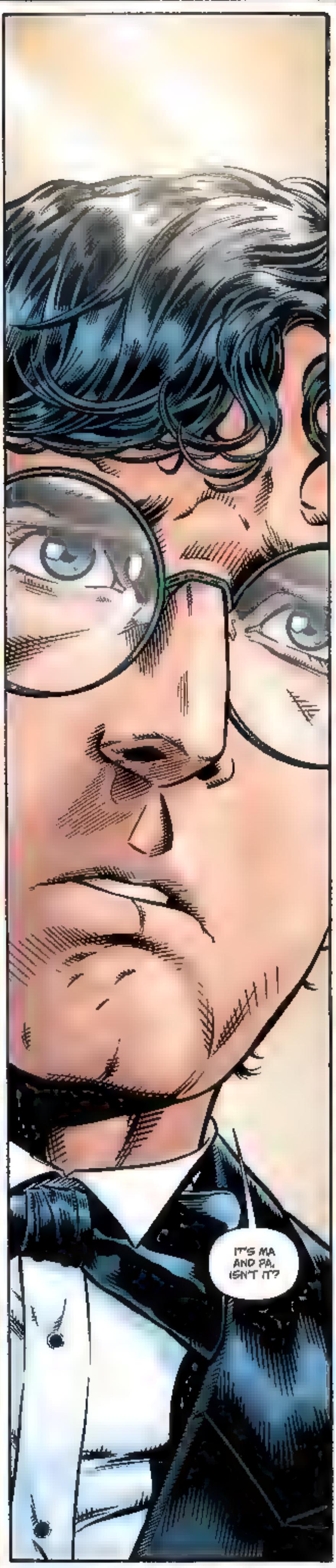
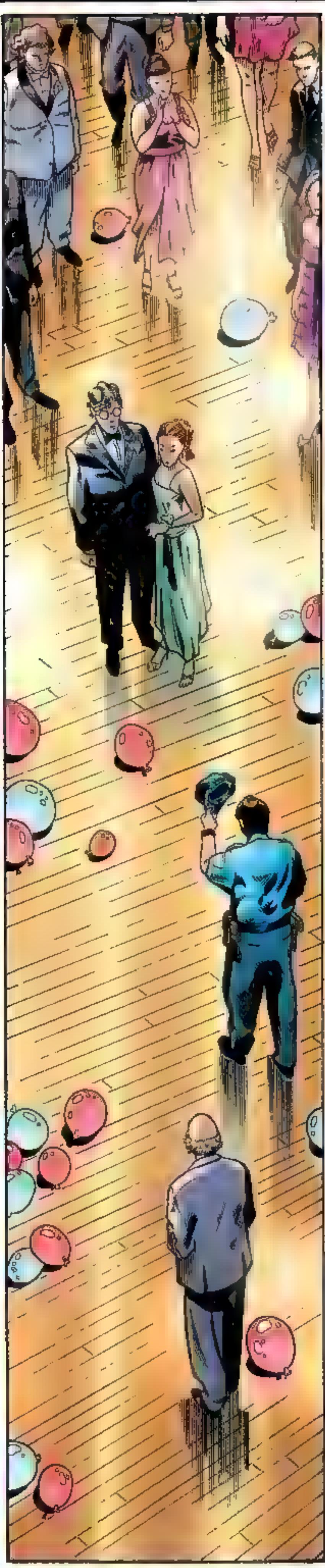
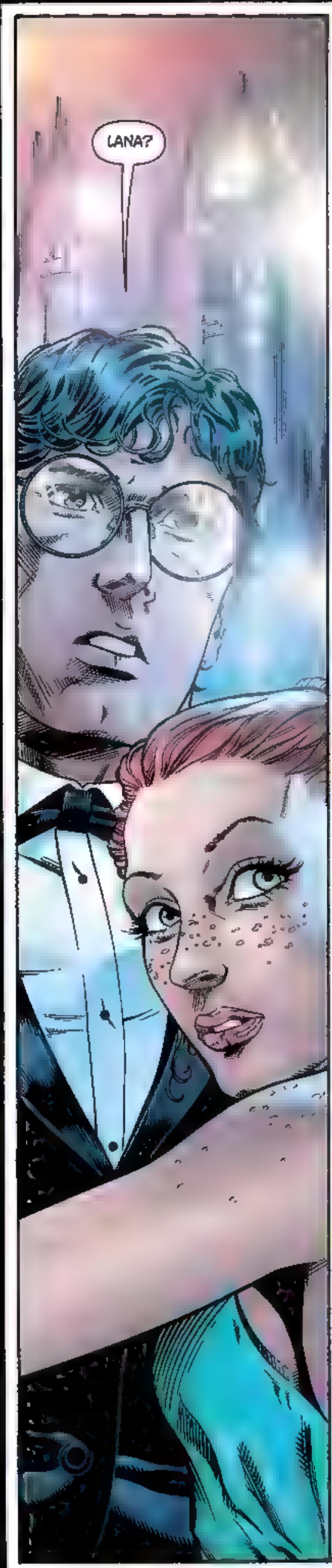
THAT'S
THEIR
LOSS.

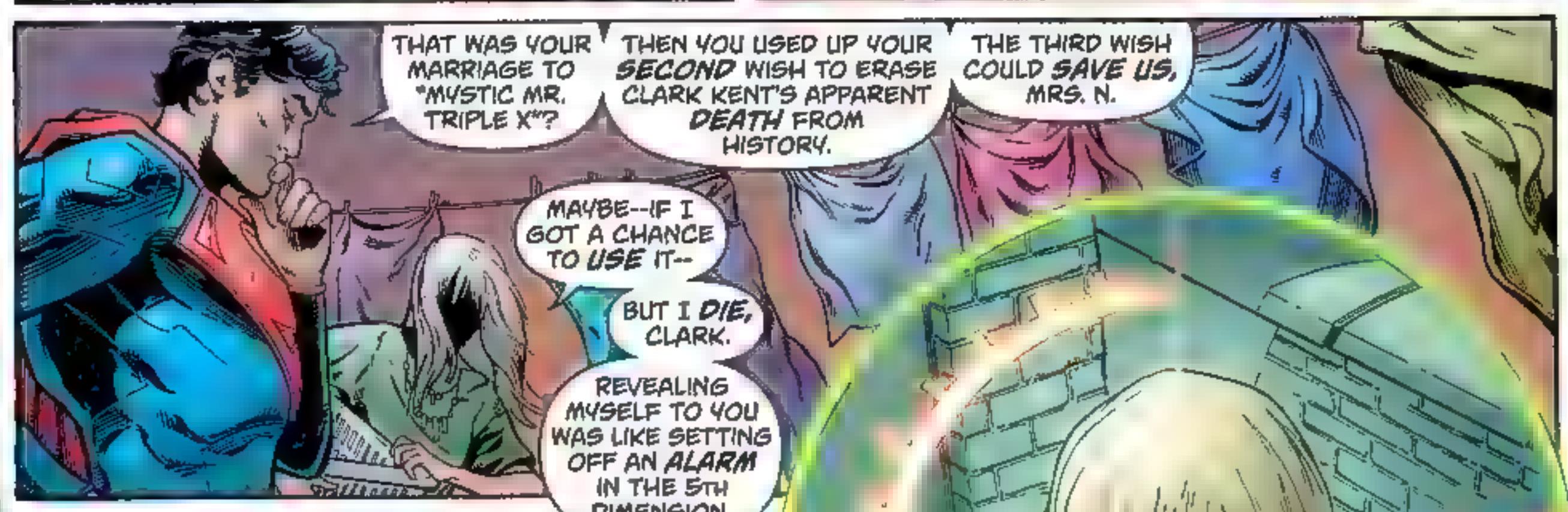
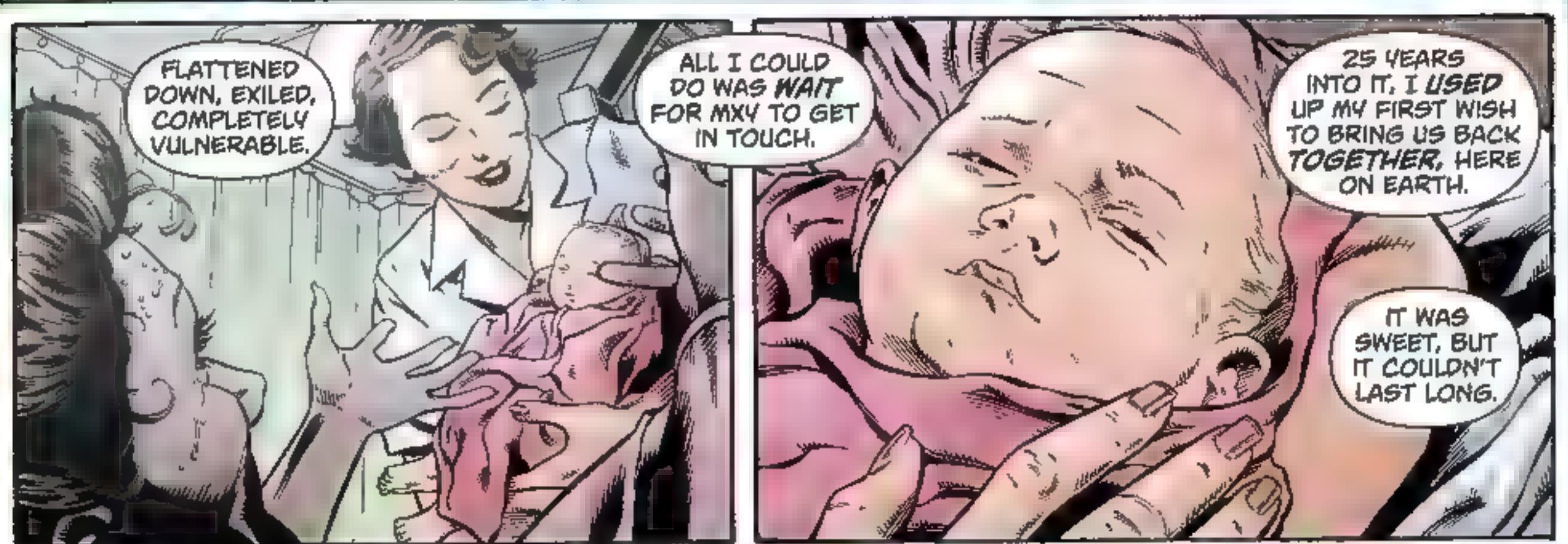
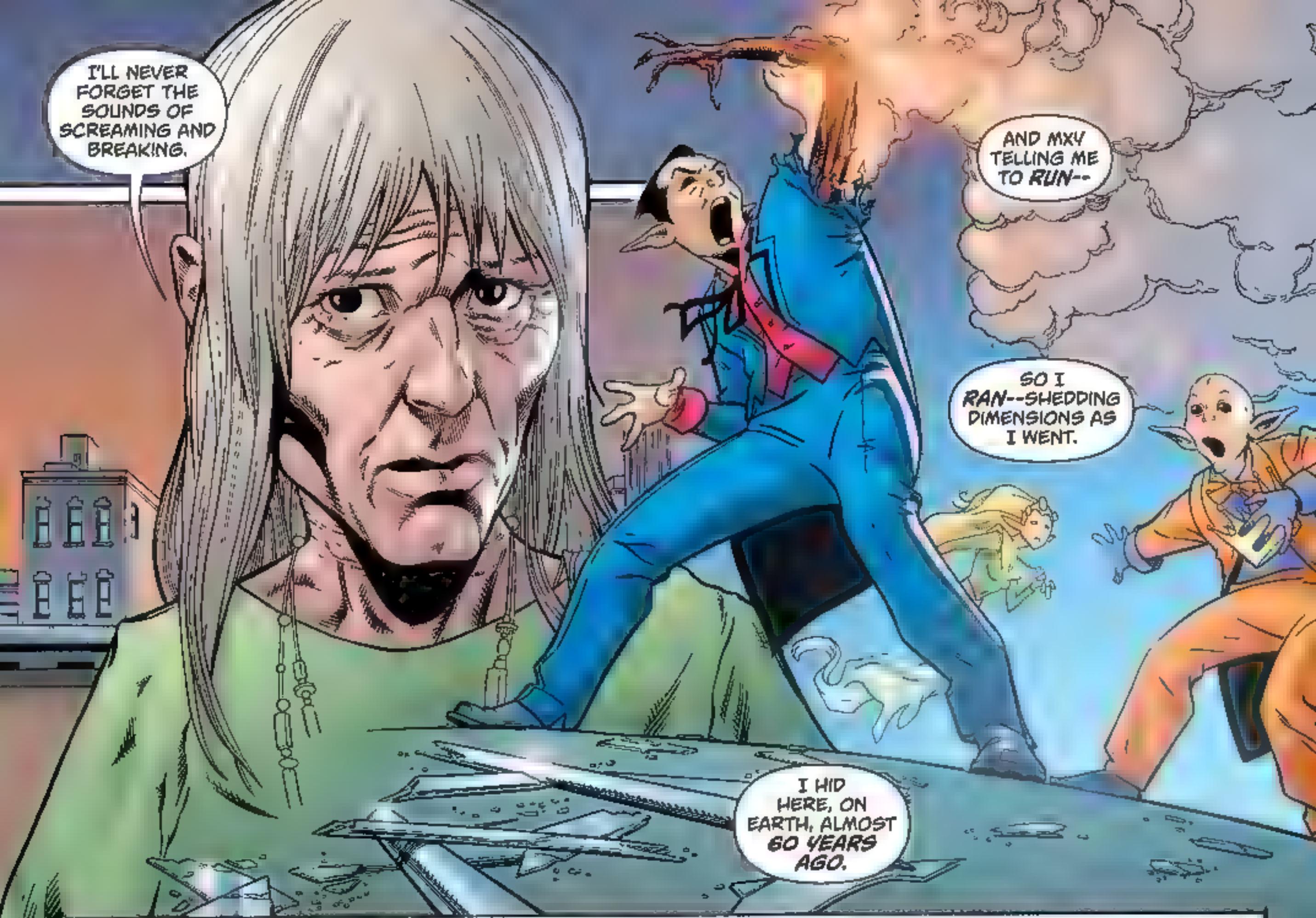
THERE'S A LOT
MORE TO YOU THAN
MEETS THE EYE,
CLARK KENT.

IT WAS
ALWAYS YOU AND
ME AGAINST THE
WORLD.

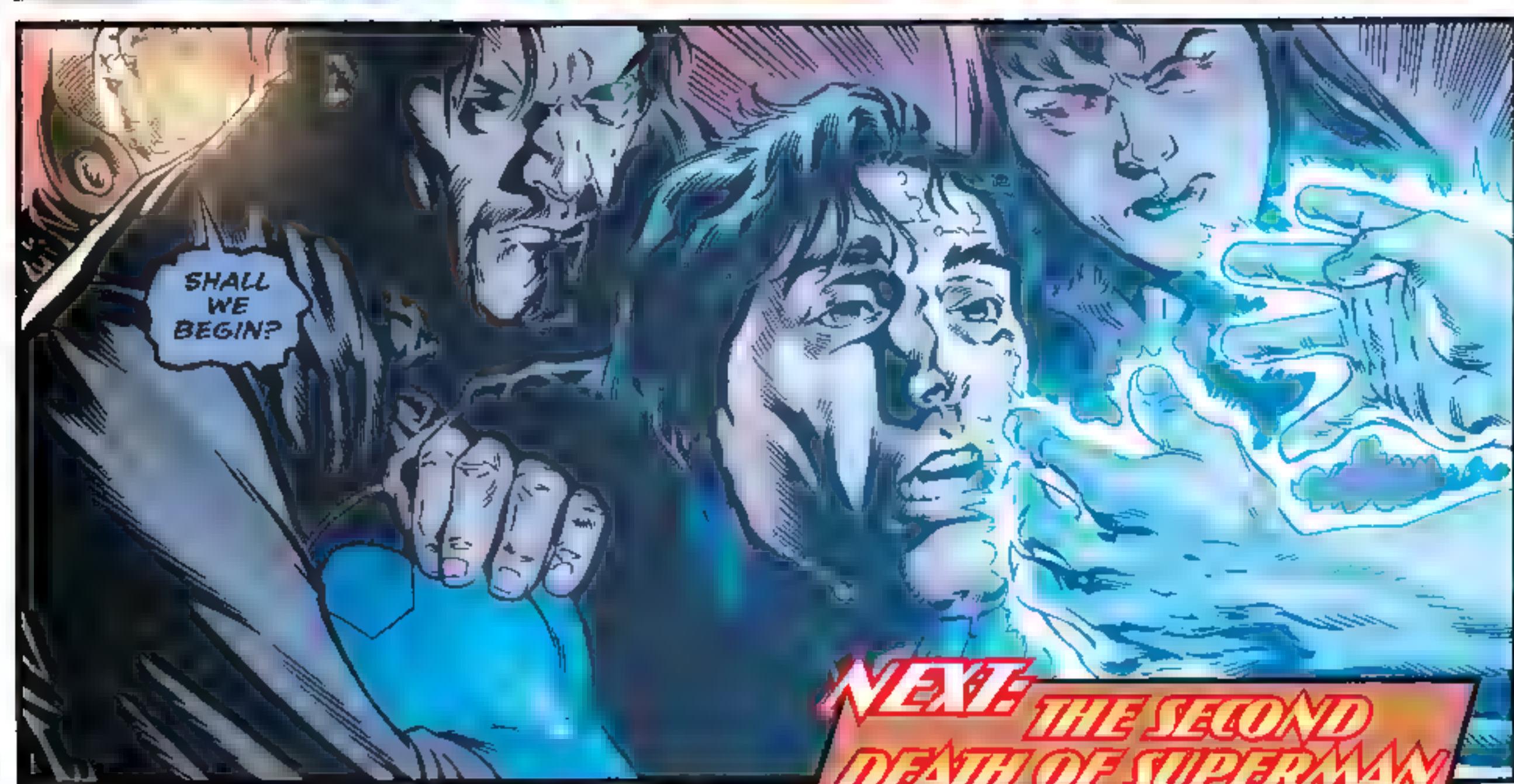
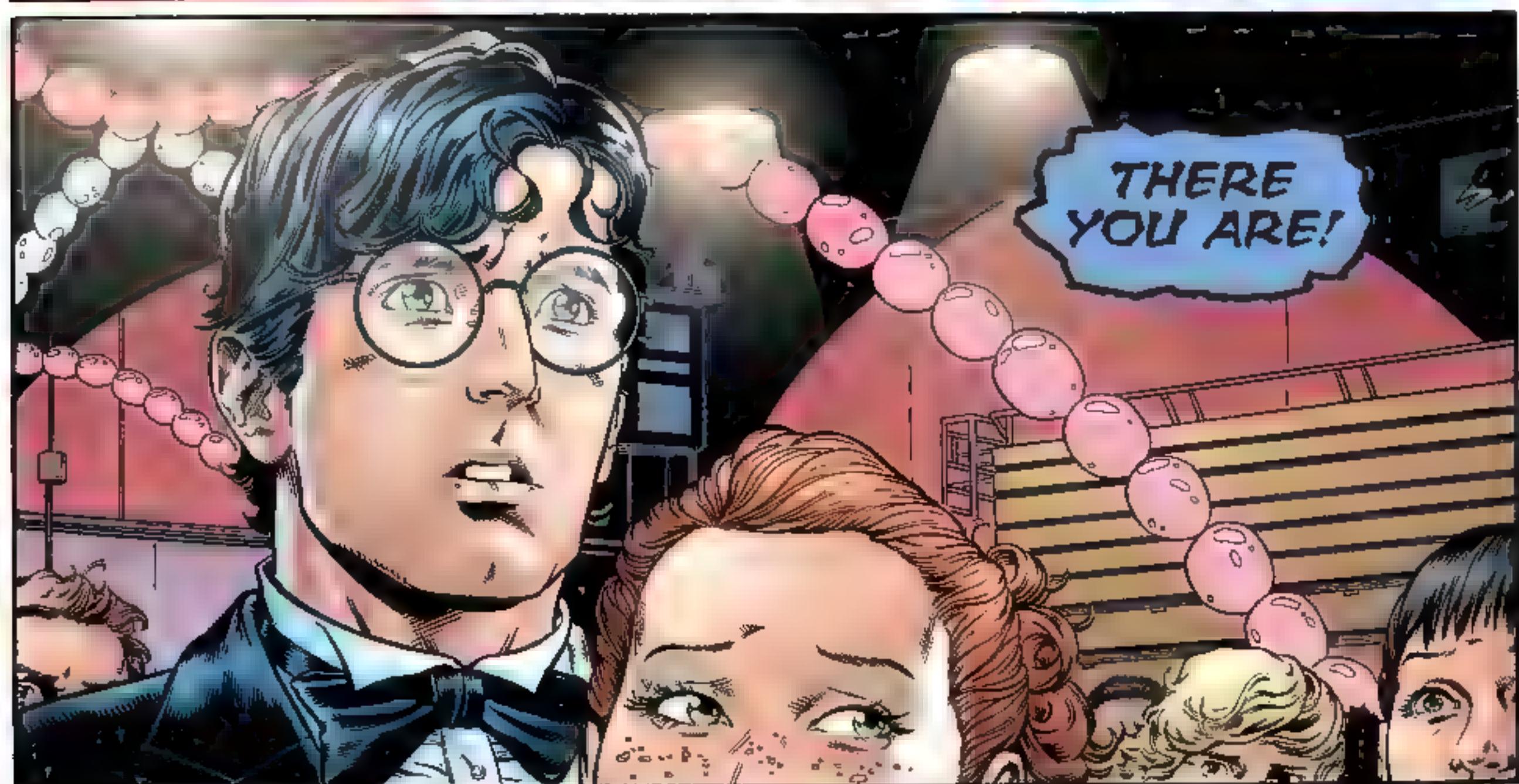
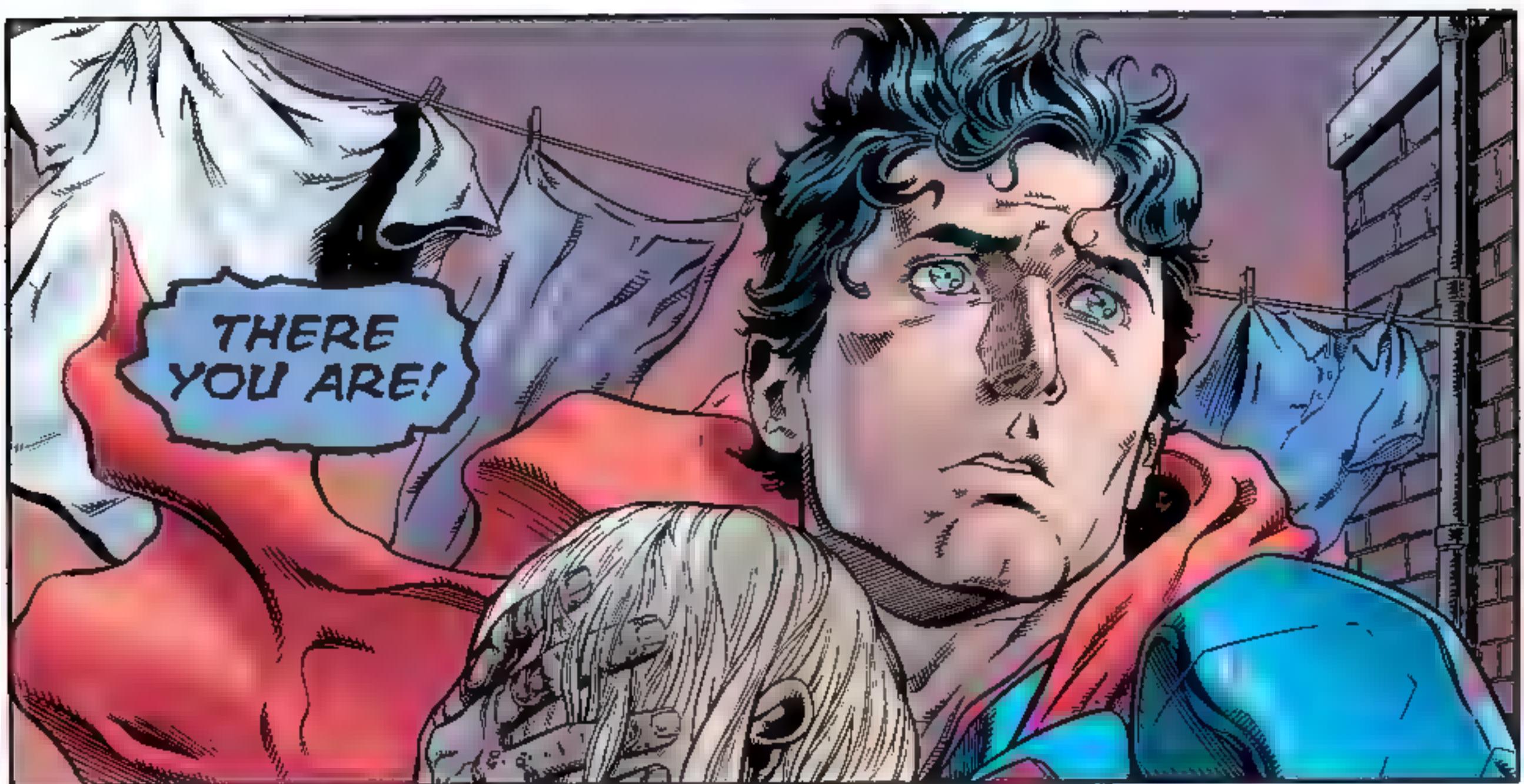
NOW THEY
ALL WANT TO
BE US.











There is a place
beyond length
and width. Beyond
depth and *time*.

A place where
imagination is
reality. A place
of *magic*.

This is a tale
of an *imp* --

— and his
greatest
trick of all.

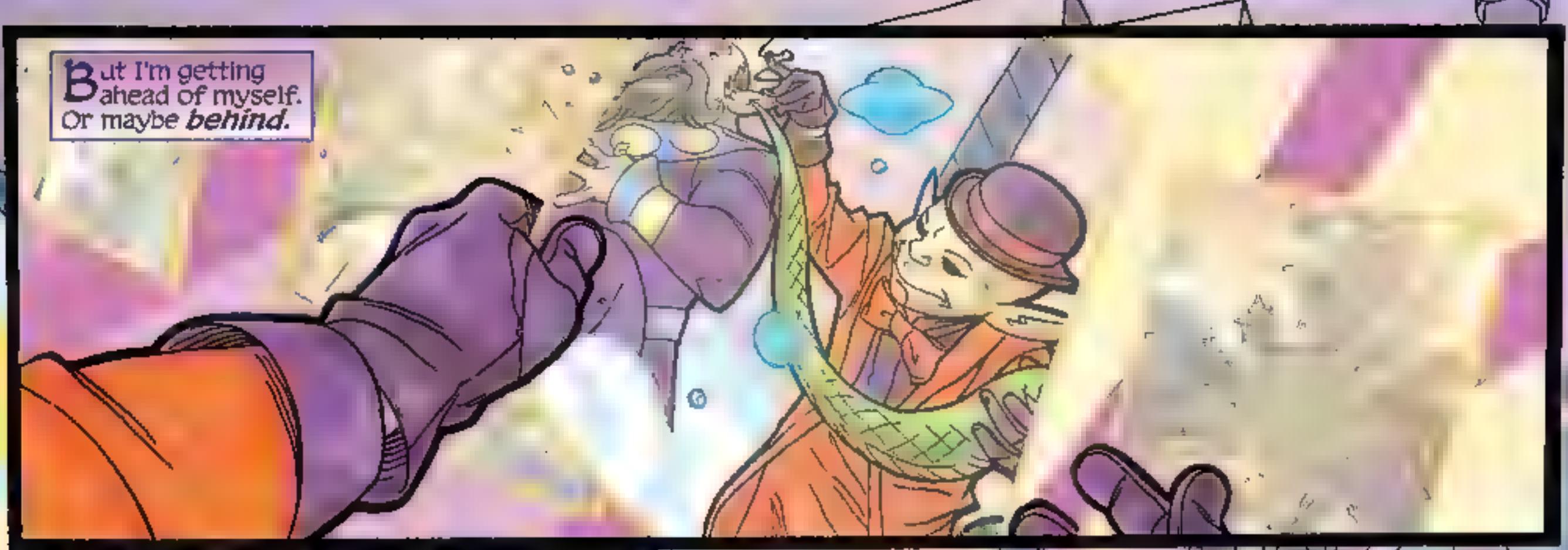


FOR MY NEXT TRICK...

SHOLLY FISCH - WRITER
CHRIS SPROUSE - PENCILLER
KARL STORY - INKER
JORDIE BELLAIRE - COLORIST
TAYLOR ESPPOSITO - LETTERER
WIL MOSS - ASSOCIATE EDITOR
MATT IDELSON - EDITOR

SUPERMAN CREATED BY
JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER

But I'm getting ahead of myself. Or maybe *behind*.



Once there was an imp made of *wishes* and *mischief*.

His tricks were the *delight* of the land of Zrfff — and especially its King.



CREAM PIE? HOW DID THAT GET IN THERE?



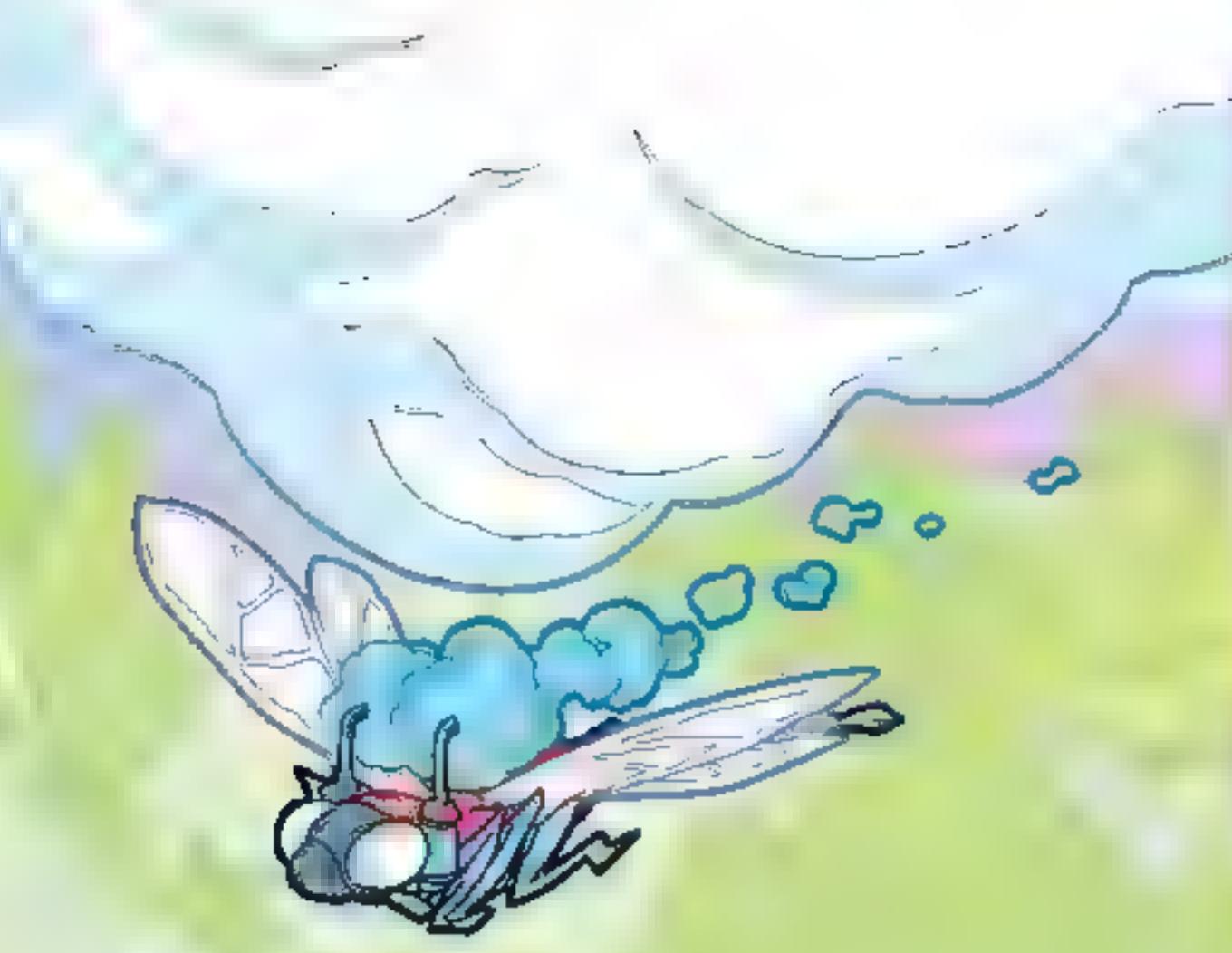
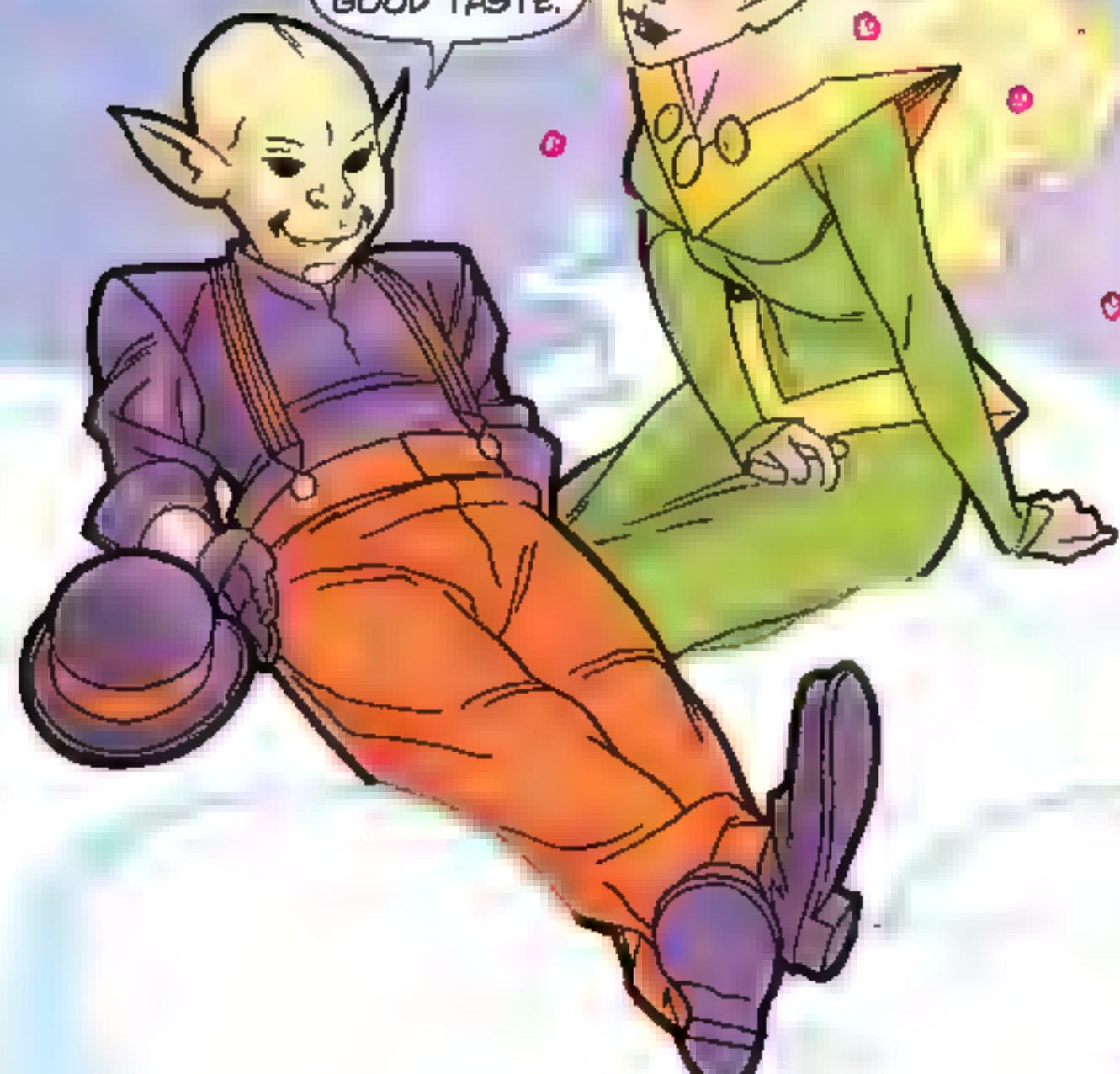
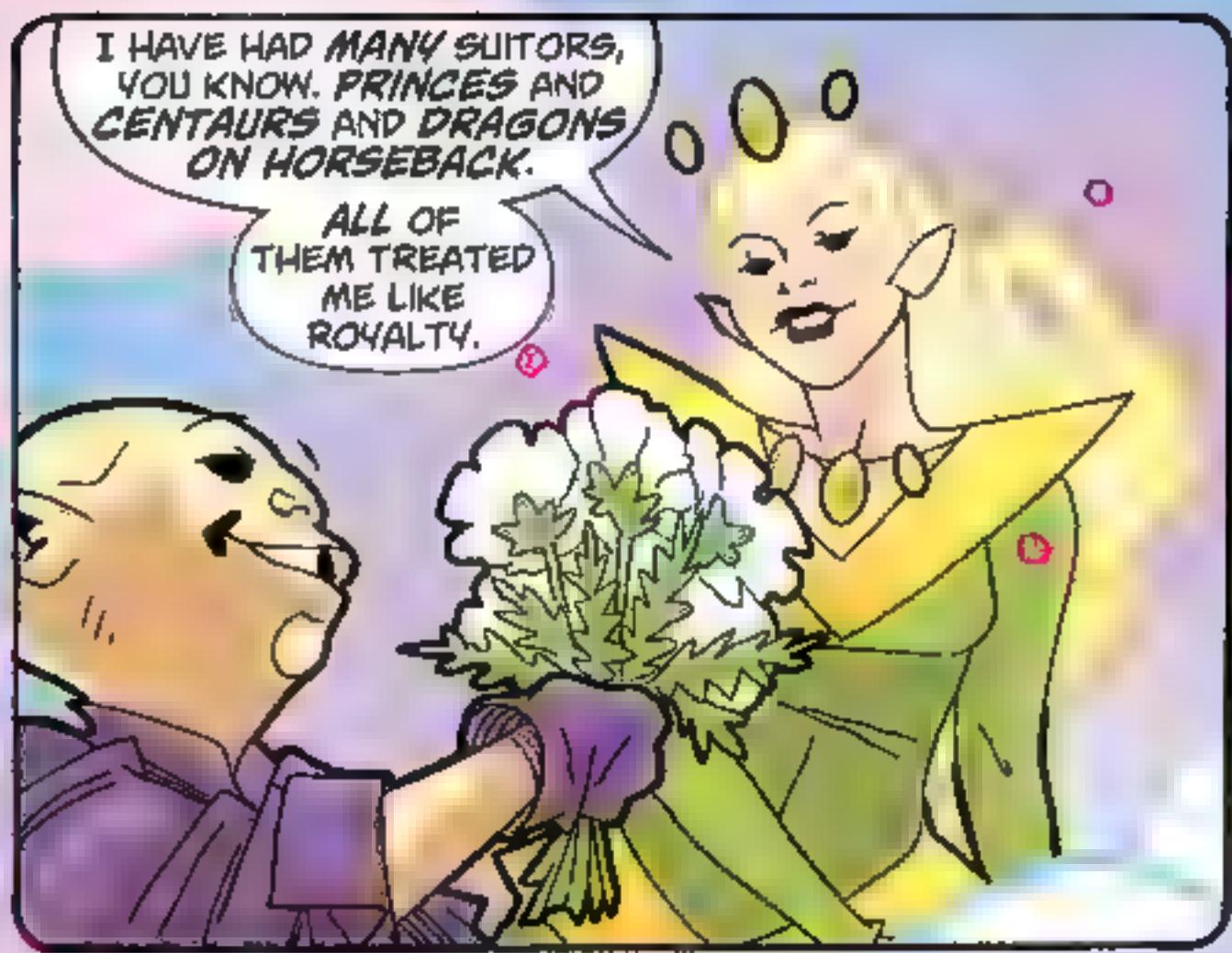
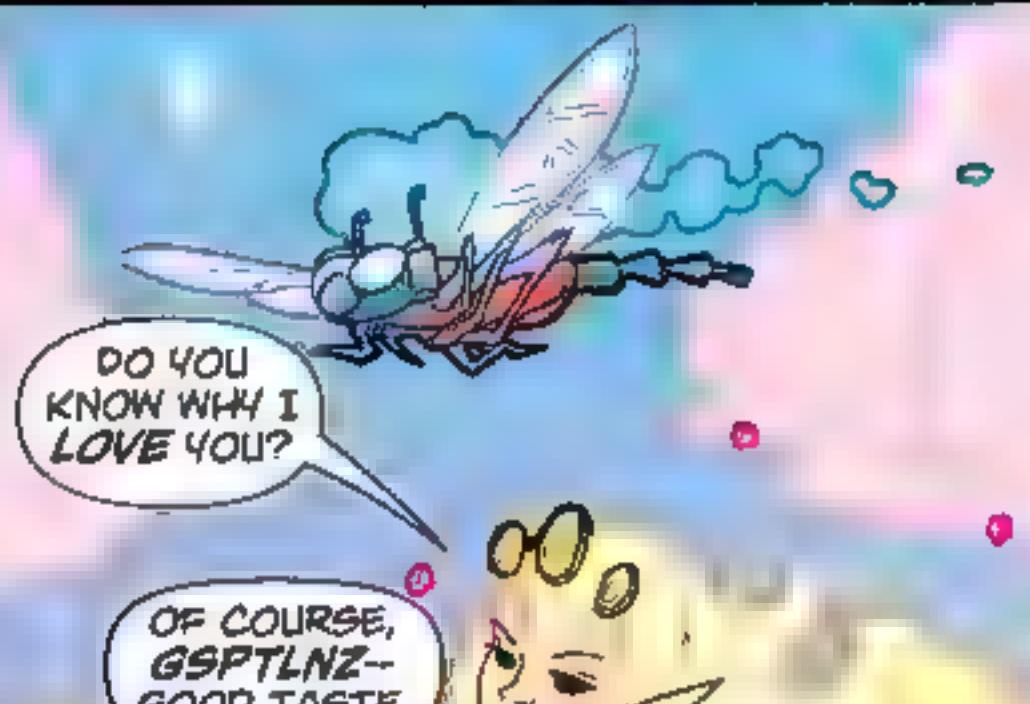
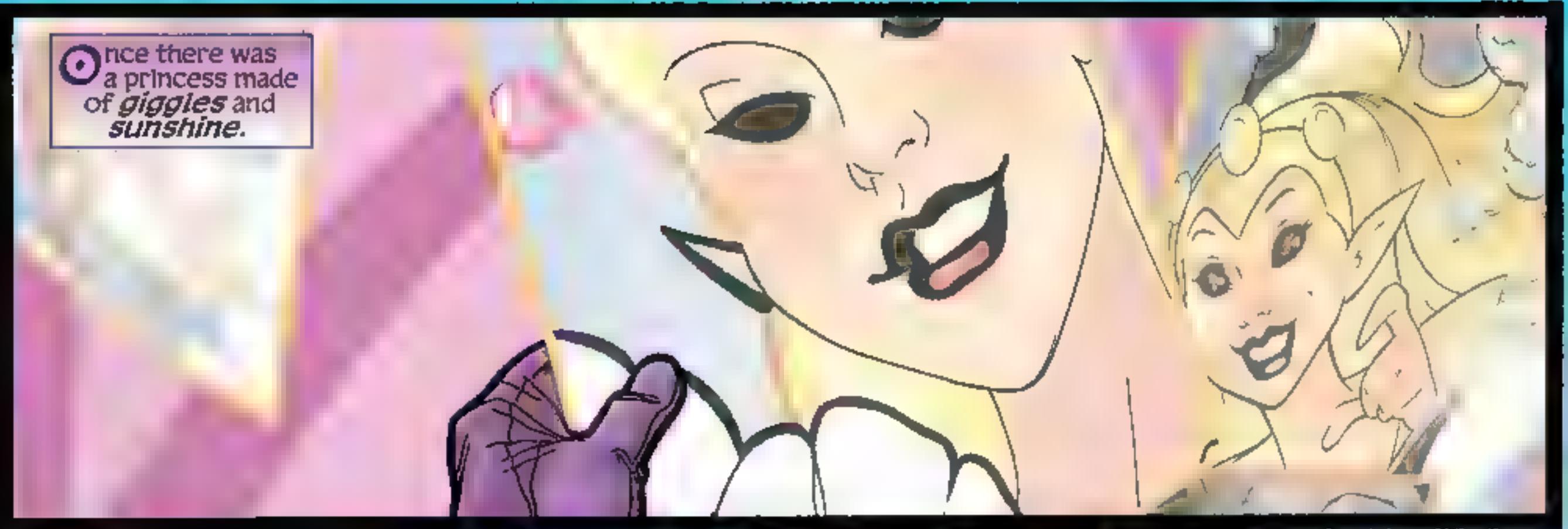
MY GREATEST TRICK? OH, NO.

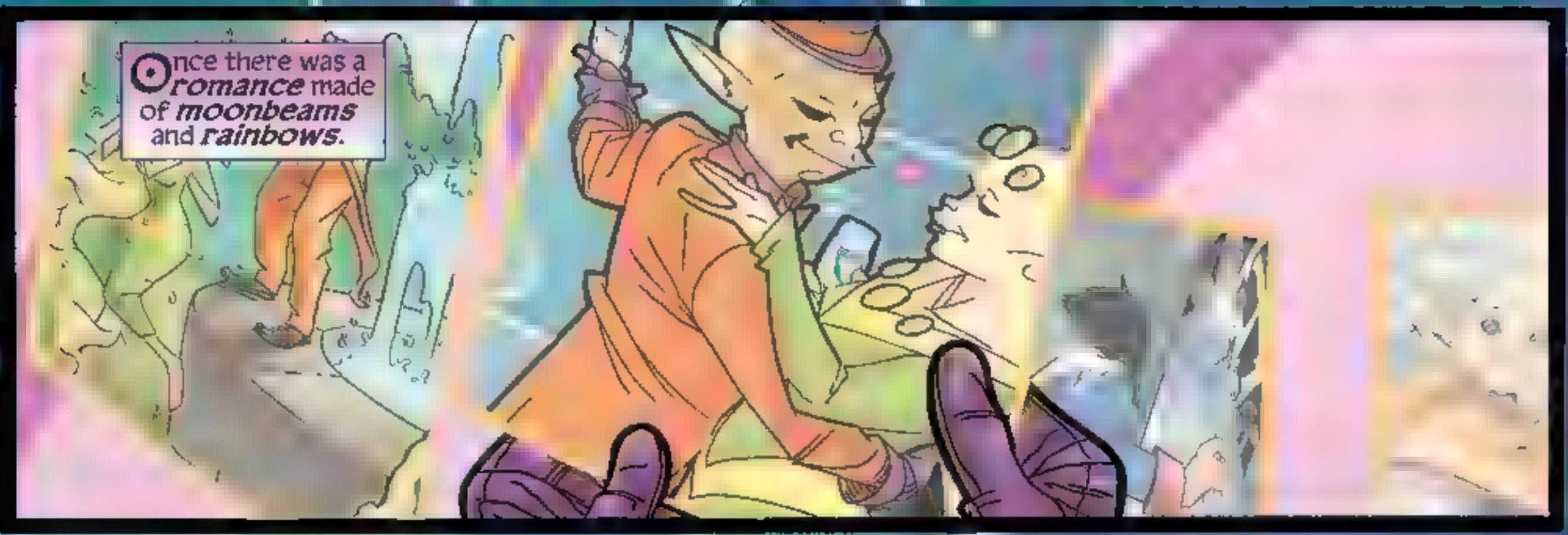


THIS ISN'T MY GREATEST TRICK.



Once there was
a princess made
of giggles and
sunshine.





Once there was a villain made of spite and malice.

Vyndktvx took himself so seriously that the imp couldn't resist giving his nose an occasional *tweak*.

Perhaps he *shouldn't* have.

The magician was determined to tear everything away from the imp. His *love* —

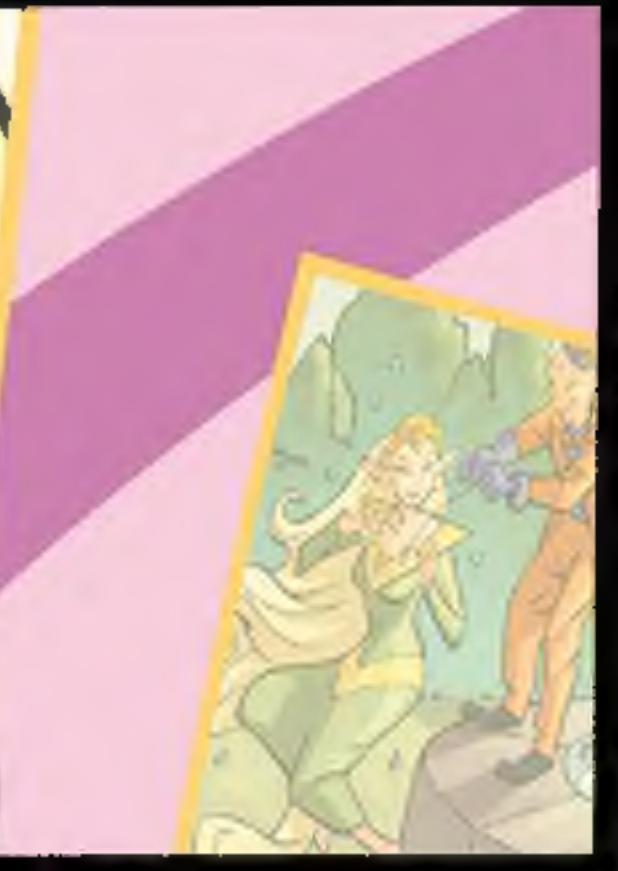
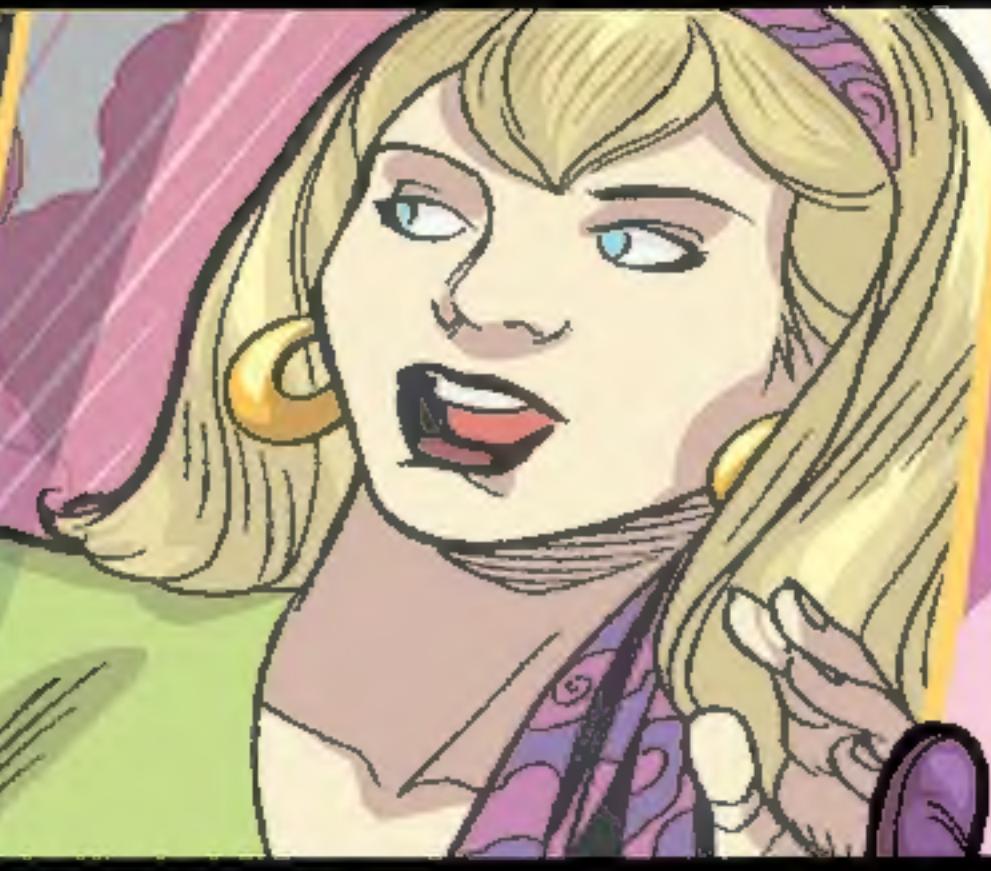
— his freedom —

— and even his greatest trick.

But the joke was on the villain. Because the Man of Steel was the imp's favorite trick —

— not his greatest.

Once there was a *three-dimensional* couple who lived an *ordinary* life.



They stayed *connected*, even when it felt like they were *worlds apart*.



They went to work.



And, though they knew nothing lasts forever, they supported each other in *sickness* and in *health*.



Until finally, in time...

Once there was
a baby made
of music —



-- a clear, strong
melody of purest joy.

ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT? IS
IT ANOTHER
ONE OF YOUR
ATTACKS?

IT'S...
NOTHING --

-- NOTHING
COMPARED
TO HIM.

WHAT DO
YOU SUPPOSE
HIS NAME SHOULD
BE? PLKZNX?
RTZSTZNV?

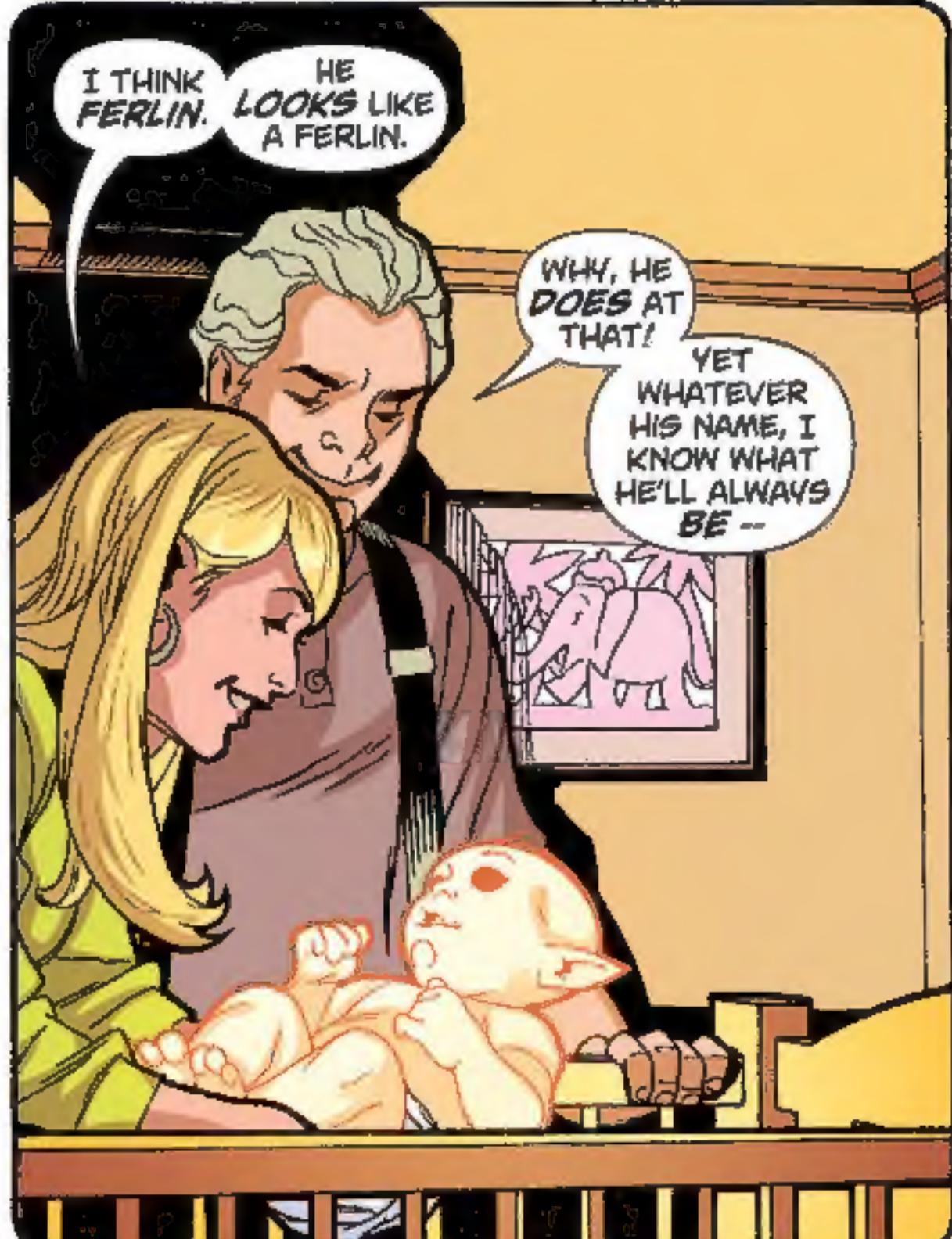
HOW ABOUT
"PLATYPUS"?

I THINK
FERLIN. HE
LOOKS LIKE
A FERLIN.

WHY, HE
DOES AT
THAT!

YET
WHATEVER
HIS NAME, I
KNOW WHAT
HE'LL ALWAYS
BE --

-- MY
GREATEST
TRICK OF
ALL.



Once there was a
princess aged by
regret and **sorrow**.



She'd been **flattered**
to be at the heart of her
imp's **greatest trick**.



But now, she
hoped he was
wrong.



Deep in her soul, she
prayed that his **greatest**
trick was still to come.



Because, more than anything
else, what her dear, beloved
Imp needed now —

-- was an
escape
act.



**the
end**